The Villages Computer Club will meet at 1 p.m. Friday June 28th at Lake Miona Recreation Center.

The program will feature a presentation on "Protecting and Backing Up Your Data" by Bob Walton.

This is something to think about now while your data is accessible. Don't wait until you have a problem and can't get to your data.

There will also be some special news about our next "*Premium* Computer Technologies Workshop".

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

If you have a computer problem you can't resolve, fill out the troubleshooting request form found at thevillagescomputerclub.com and bring it to the meeting. Forms are also available at the meeting. Ask for one when you pick up your door prize ticket.

Guests are always welcome, please bring your village ID card. For information or to sign up to be on the VCC email list, visit the website or email Paul Rabenold at TVCC.Pres@gmail.com

 thevillagescomputerclub.com

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Back Ups Made Simple.
   How would you like to be able to backup your entire hard drive and have a spare in case you get corrupted or catch a virus. If you feel comfortable installing or changing hard drives, you can get a USB External Hard Drive Enclosure, also called kits, that allow you to install or change the Hard Drive. The hard drive must be purchased separately.

    Shop for Internal Hard Drives which can usually be found on sale for about 50 cents a Gig after rebates. You can install an (internal) Hard Drive in this External Enclosure and use it to back up all your files… much easier than reading, writing and storing CDs or DVDs.

   Also, using a cloning program such as Casper XP or Ghost, or Acronis, you can copy (clone) your entire hard to this USB External Hard Drive. Unlike other copy programs, Casper XP will clone your entire Hard Drive to a USB External - and the Hard Drives don't have to be the same size. You can even use a smaller, slower HD as a backup as long as it's big enough to hold the data. http://www.fssdev.com/products/casperxp/

If your computer's hard drive crashes or gets corrupted, just install the Cloned Hard Drive in your computer and in about 5 minutes, you're back in operation - exactly like

you were when you Cloned your Hard drive to the external. OF course data added to your computer's hard drive after the clone was saved will not be on the clone unless you add it periodically.

  Also - while the Cloned HD is in the External, you can still read / write (non system) files and use it to backup newer data.

    The possibilities seem endless Instead of storing many CDs or data DVDs as backups, I have a couple of spare Hard Drives that hold everything and are ready to install when needed.
  Sorry - Laptops are physically different and use much more expensive Hard Drives. But, when using my laptop, I copy everything I save to a USB external hard drive.

It is impractical to try to back up Windows onto floppies because there's so much material to back up. At 1.44MB per floppy, your estimate of 500 floppies is probably accurate. I even consider it dangerous to backup to CDs. I feel much better copying important files to an external hard drive.

If you have purchased a new computer and have no easy way to copy files from the old computer to the new one, you can always attach a group of the files to an email and send it to yourself. It may require many emails to send all the data and pictures. Do not open the email in your old computer. Rather, open them in the new computer and Save them to folders in your new computer.
CRITICALLY IMPORTANT: When you purchase a new computer MAKE SURE that you get a Recovery Disk or that you use the information in the computer's manual to CREATE a set of Recovery Disk. IF your computer crashes, you can usually use the Recovery Disks to get up and going again.
Don't just depend upon the Recovery disk installed on your new computer to get you up and running...what if you can't get to that Recovery drive???

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BACKUP AND RESTORE

 Q. What do you think of the Acronis Image as a backup program?

 A. I have an older version of Acronis. It's a good program, but I have not used it as I do NOT want to have to RESTORE the backup in order to get to info stored. I want the info readily available at all times, day or night. That is why I have elected to use an external drive.

I save all the data created by me directly to subfolders in the MY DOCUMENTS folder in my external hard drive...not to my computer's C: drive. My external hard drive (350gig) has been partioned into 3 drives:

   M\: for my data,
   N\: for my pictures and music.
   O\: for Genealogy.
All text data is saved to my M: drive
All Music and Pictures are saved to my N: drive and all Genealogy is saved directly to my O: drive on the external hard drive.

I can access any file momentarily by going to one of the 3 partition drives on my external hard drive . Another added feature of doing this is that when I go away from home, I can take my external and access any file by plugging it into a USB port of my laptop

For those times when I just want to have a bit of data to use in any computer, I will copy that data to a flash drive. It can be plugged into any USB port on any computer and used as though it were on my on computer at home. I do this when I teach a class, for instance.

In the past, I have used Norton's Ghost to backup a hard drive, and I've used the old Windows backup program to backup data but I found both to be time consuming and cumbersome to restore, if they would restore at all.

Since I have the install CDs of all programs I use, I don't worry any longer about a crash. If my computer crashes, I simply plug my external into another computer such as, my laptop or my husband's computer, I'm up and away within minutes as my important programs are on both computers and the data is all on one of the drives of my external hard drive.

I've found it to meet my storage needs much better than trying to backup a whole hard drive to save programs, data, pictures, etc. While backup and restore is supposed to be THE way to go, I never found ANYONE who was satisfied with the way a hard drive restored. I like 'my way' and have the happiness of knowing that while I'm working and saving data that it is being separated from this computer which could crash any day, any minute as I am demanding that it do all kinds of things.
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Moving files and folders from one computer to another

Note: Programs that require installing cannot just be copied to a flash drive and move to another computer...UNLESS the program is one you've downloaded and saved as the original file such as your AVG, or it's a small .exe program such as Bigjig.exe.

The easiest way to move folder contents from one computer to another is to use a USB flash drive. Be sure that the size of the flash drive is large enough to contain the amount of material you're transferring, unless you wish to move part, then format the flash drive and then move more using the same flash drive.

1.Plug in the USB flash drive to the old computers' USB port. You'll get a message that the computer has found new hardware. Wait a few seconds and you'll get another message stating that the new software has been installed and is ready for use.

2. Rightclick the START button and select EXPLORE.

3. Click on the + beside the Local C: drive near the top of the left column in Explore.

4. Scroll down and click the folder where you've stored your documents and doubleclick that folder. All the subfolders and files you've created will be listed on the right side of the page.

5. Rightclick the folder you wish to copy to the flash drive and select Copy.

6. Now, scroll down the left column until you see the letter that is the REMOVABLE (flash) drive, rightclick it and select Paste. The folder you selected and all it's contents will be copied to the flash drive. The original folder and contents will remain on the C: drive of the old computer. (I do not suggest that you drag and drop as it is too easy to drop items before reaching the correct folder. Use Copy and Paste to avoid this problem)

7. Continue rightclicking folders and files and selecting copy, then rightclick the Removable drive and select Paste until all the folders and files you want have been pasted to the drive.
(If you're used to doing Copy & Paste, you can hold down the CTRL key and select ALL the folders and files you wish to place on the flash drive, then rightclick in the blue area and select SEND TO: select the letter that is the Removable flash drive and all will be copied over)
8. Next, click the flash drive icon in the startup tray,(it's a little tray with a green arrow above it)and select the Removable drive, should be the top one listed and you'll get a message that it is now safe to remove (unplug) it. Unplug it.

9. Plug it into the new computer's USB port. Again, you'll get the message that new hardware has been found. Wait and you'll get the message that the new hardware has been installed and is ready for use.

10. Rightclick the START and select Explore.

11. Decide where you wish to store the contents of the flash drive. For instance, you can select the entire contents, rightclick and select Copy and then rightclick the My documents folder and select Paste and the entire contents will be added to the My Document folder of the new computer .
 However, my suggestion is to create a new folder in the My Documents folder and place all the files and folders from the old computer into it.

To create the new folder, at the top of the Explore screen, click File...New... Folder and name that folder so it represents the old computer. Example: HP Desktop 2355 or such. And then select the entire contents of the flash drive, rightclick in the blue area and select SEND TO: select the new subfolder you created (HP Desktop 2355).
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Hard Drive Backup

HELP, Please tell me the proper way to back up my hard drive. I have not done it and I have added new programs and want to do it the correct way.

There is a backup program in XP although XP doesn't make it easy to find....probably because it doesn't work any better than the older versions of MS backup.

There are a number of imaging programs that can be purchased such as Norton's Ghost which will create an image of your hard drive and in event of hard drive failure, when your hard drive is repaired, you can then restore that image right back to that hard drive. This requires that you have lots of storage space available. I prefer a simpler route.

What I recommend is this
1. Keep all your install disks in a safe place in case you have a hard drive failure, you can reinstall after repair or replacement of the hard drive.
2. Make a set of Recovery Disks for your computer in case your computer won't start and you can't get to the Recovery that is on a partition of your c:\ drive...unless of course you were fortunate enough to have gotten Recovery disks with your computer.
3. Any programs, drivers,etc that you download from web sites, download to the DOWNLOAD folder you create under MY DOCUMENTS. If you need to reinstall those you'll have them.
4. All Pictures and Documents you create, should be saved in a folder you create under MY DOCUMENTS or in a folder you create under the MY PICTURES folder in the MY DOCUMENTS FOLDER.

With all the above said, you are now ready to do your backup...which is to **copy** the MY DOCUMENTS either to an external hard drive, to a CD or send it via a network to another computer on your network. This way, **should a crash occur** you have the option to:

1. Do a System Restore back to a date when all was well, if your computer will start to SAFE MODE.
2. Use the Recovery Disk to just recover the Applications if the problem is with corrupted files in the OS.
3. Or worse scenario is to do a full Format and Recovery using your Recovery disks which means wiping the hard drive clean and then the recovery disk will reinstall the OS and programs just like it came from the factory. In this case, you will then need to reinstall any programs you have added to your computer. AND copy back the MY DOCUMENTS FOLDER to replace the MY DOCUMENTS folder on your clean formatted machine. And also, remember to update your anti-virus and anti-spyware programs once reinstalled.

What I have elected to do is to invest in an external Hard drive and I save everything to it as I create stuff rather than saving to my C:\ drive. About every 3 months, I move a copy of the My Documents folder to another computer on my network into a folder I call Laptop backup, replacing the one stored on last backup.

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Copy Pictures to Flash Drive

Easy storage – purchase a large volume flash drive or several if needed. Use one to store documents and a separate one to store your prized pictures. They're cheap! Don't lose those precious moments you've captured with your camera. Besides it's also an easy way to take the pictures with you and share with family and friends.

1. Plug your flash drive into a USB port on your computer. A message will appear in the STARTUP tray that new hardware has been found. Wait a couple of min and you'll see another message stating the new hardware has now been installed and is ready for use.

2. Rightclick Start...click Explore.
3. Scroll down to the folder where your pictures are located. Rightclick the folder and click properties. Look to see how much space the folder contains....such as 590MB or it may be something like 2.3gig. Your flash drive must be big enough to contain this amount of data or you'll have to copy some to one and the rest to another flash drive. IF your flash drive is big enough to contain the whole content of the folder, then do this,
4. Rightclick the folder and select COPY.
5. Now, scroll down near the bottom of the left column until you see the letter that is this new Flash Drive. Rightclick it and select PASTE. The whole folder will be copied to the flash drive. Wait until it finishes copying.
6. Now doubleclick the flash drive itself and you should see on the right side of the screen the yellow folder that you just copied.
7. Doubleclick the yellow folder and make sure that all your pictures are there. IF they are, you may go back to the folder from which you copied them, doubleclick it and delete all the pictures on the right side of the page, or you may leave the original copy on your hard drive. The Flash Drive will be a backup copy.
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Pray for your family, your community and our nation.

http://www.medjugorje.com/medjugorje-today/headlines/1434-major-medjugorje-announcement-february-25-2013.html
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Jmax

Jmax's Website   http://www.jmaxbits.com/
Jmax Bits Newsletter is now posted each Monday & Thursday on the website.

You have the option for a .pdf or a .rtf file.

1.For help with a computer problem, put <u>HELP</u> in the subject line and give me info about the computer you're using, if you know it.

2.To view or print <u>Jmax Bits Good Services List in the Villages area</u>, click link <u>www.jmaxbits.com</u>

3. To sign up for the non-computer newsletter, send an email to VLGSClassifieds@aol.com. Put SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. To send an Ad, place AD in the subject line.

4. The Villages Computer Club's web page: <u>Click here: Welcome To The Villages Computer Club</u>
To add your name to the VCC announcements list, send email to TheVCC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

5. Fred Benson's website <u>www.thevillagescomputerbasics.com</u>