

## **Don't Hold Your Breath Computer Service**

Hello,

This month we began operating my business in Genesee County. We had previously worked in Huron County before moving earlier this year. We had an article printed in *The Flint Journal* on our services. You may view the online article at [Mlive](#). I've added Remote Assistance to my list of offered services. Remote Assistance allows me to access your computer from anywhere in the world. I was able to assist a customer in Pennsylvania this month using the remote assistance feature.

Also this month, I've worked on an increased number of client Web sites and helped many small-town businesses get online. I'm helping them to increase in-store business and e-commerce. I've been able to get them on the top of the list on Web search sites. This month I am offering a \$10 off any service discount (excluding parts) to any customer who mentions that they read this newsletter. Also, if you have any suggestions for my monthly newsletter, or questions please e-mail them my way at [decker\\_brian@computerbreath.com](mailto:decker_brian@computerbreath.com). I will also be updating my blog throughout the month with the most up-to-date information about the business and things I encounter.

## **Computer World In June**

### **Farewell XP:**

Microsoft decided to offer technical support for Windows XP with updates and security patches until April 2014. However, it did not go back on its decision to discontinue Windows XP sales after June 30, 2008.

### **Yahoo:**

Yahoo fixed a critical vulnerability in its Messenger desktop and Mail applications that could allow hackers to steal identities to gain access to users' private information. In a worst case scenario, the flaw enabled hackers to hijack users' sessions and infiltrate their private accounts, as well as overtake operations in Yahoo Mail, if it was exploited.

### **Adobe:**

Adobe has issued fixes for a critical vulnerability being exploited by malware writers. The flaw affects both Adobe's Acrobat and Adobe Reader applications on MacOS and Windows. The company recommends that users of both platforms install the security update.

The vulnerability could allow an attacker to gain control of the user's system by way of a malformed JavaScript code. When exploited, the vulnerability leads to an application crash that leaves the user liable to remote control of their system and code execution from the attacker. Such remote code execution flaws are a favorite method for covertly installing malware and are often regarded as the highest risks amongst software vulnerabilities.

**Dell:**

Dell has extended the availability of systems preloaded with Windows XP, citing customer demand for the older operating system.

But now you only have the option to purchase Windows Vista Business or Windows Vista Ultimate with a downgrade service to Windows XP Professional. That will cost you \$50. How exactly do they go about charging you to downgrade to XP when Vista costs more than XP? If it was the other way around, I could see why Dell would charge extra, but not when Vista is more expensive than XP. Dell certainly gets the “Doh! Award” for this month. Perhaps maybe even the year. What are they the airline companies now? Only they’re going to charge me more for not having a carry on.

**Databits:**

There are now more than one billion PCs in use worldwide and this number will double by the year 2014

Firefox 3, Web browser, became downloadable beginning June 17 and has been downloaded over 20 million times.

**Reminders:**

In case you haven’t uninstalld any RC builds (any build less than 6.0.6001.18000) they expired on June 30. Today, the kernel will stop with an END\_OF\_NT\_EVALUATION\_PERIOD error message an hour after the machine has booted. If you did wait until today, just reboot your PC and start the uninstall process. If you don't know what RC builds are then you most likely don't need to concern yourself with this.

If you haven't checked out [Filehippo.com](http://Filehippo.com), I suggest you do. On there you can download their Free Update Checker and scan your PC for the latest software updates. Not just Windows updates either, but it scans all your software and finds the updates for them. These updates will help your machine run faster and keep it secure.

I'm also still holding off on downloading Windows XP Service Pack 3. They finally got the problem with [Symantec](http://Symantec) security products fixed. Yet neither Microsoft nor Symantec have taken responsibility for the problem.

Sincerely,  
Brian Decker  
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