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Windows 7 Update:

If you want a sexy interface and smooth functionality, Window 7 measures up. Some say the task bar is actually better than Apple. There are six versions of Windows 7. Which one is right for you? The Starter version is pretty basic. Once you move up a notch to Home/Premium you will have most all features you desire. The next jump is Professional. At this level you can see XP options although this feature will cost another \$80. You probably don't need this so I vote for the Home/Premium version. Higher versions are more business oriented.

Windows 7 Laptop:

I have heard rumors that the Windows 7 laptop has battery life issues. It seems there is a warning that tells the user that the battery is low. Microsoft states this is a false warning. Users say the current battery cannot handle all the new applications and only lasts 1-2 hours. I will report back as I learn more. In the meantime beware and consider owning a spare. By the way this has been an issue since Vista.

Windows XP:

Here is your first warning. April 8, 2014 Microsoft will no longer take support calls and issue security fixes. This doesn't mean that no one will run XP. It just means that you will be on your own. You've been warned. Did you know that Windows 98 and prior are no longer supported? So...you have three years to buy that new computer. Most computers have a life-span of 3-5 years to stay up with software. That is not to say your older computer is not working; it just is getting slower by the day. If you are looking for a place to donate your Windows XP, let me know. I am connected to a number of places that will give you a tax receipt and help the less fortunate.

Novice Class This Saturday:

How would you like an informal computer class geared for those of you who have very limited experience? I am offering this fun and easy class this Saturday, February 20, from 8:30am-12:30pm. You will learn how to turn on the computer, use a mouse, play some games and generally gain confidence. I take it slow and with a great amount of patience. You will understand how the computer works and what kind of fun and education things you can do with this wonderful machine. You may ask how much this will cost me. The entire four hours is only \$29 and for those of you over 60, and are MI residents, the cost is ONLY \$14.50. Come join me at The Whitman Center just over the OH line on Lewis by Sterns Road. Call 734-847-0559 today!

I Make House Calls:

I offer a 20% discount on my hourly rate for those 60 and over. I will come to your home or office and help you with most any predicament. I have an endless amount of patience and knowledge. Give me a call at 419-318-9112. Don't forget to sign up for my free newsletter online. I will analyze your computer and even install more RAM for more speed.

Janis Weber, owner of Ohio Computer Training, is a personal computer instructor. E-mail any specific questions or comments to jwpctutor@gmail.com or contact her for on-site assistance at 419-318-9112. Offer suggestions for another article. New public classes are listed on her website: www.ohcomputertraining.com as well as all archived articles.