



FULL SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

Compute Storage Security Networking Managed Services

As a leading network and systems integrator for the past 22 years, GDT partners with industry leaders to deliver customized, cutting-edge client solutions and lead them on their digital transformation journey.



If you see me, come say hi.
Jerry Goodrich
or contact TexasTurnkey@gdt.com team

We offer BCAP friends and family discounts



email us at
TexasTurnkey@gdt.com



NewsClips

February 6, 2020

Delaware County Daily Times
Editorial: Upgrades to Delaware County 911 system are not going to be cheap

Politico
The divisive Democratic operative behind Shadow, the app that broke Iowa

Ars Technica
AT&T is doing exactly what it told Congress it wouldn't do with Time Warner

Bloomberg
Disney+ Streaming Costs Dim Analysts' View on Explosive Growth

Washington Post
Don't sell my data! Now there's a law for that — if you jump through these hoops

Associated Press
TV news ready to shift gears after impeachment saga ends

Harrisburg Patriot-News
Champion of Pennsylvania's lobbying law was fined \$19,900 for breaking it

Pennsylvania Cong. Fred Keller (R-12th) announced the United States Department of Agriculture will open a second round of ReConnect program funding on Friday. The ReConnect program allows the federal government to work with telecommunications companies, rural electric cooperatives and utilities, internet service providers and municipalities to build modern broadband infrastructure in areas that do not have sufficient service.

The first round of funding has already provided more than \$340 million for rural broadband projects. As part of the second round of funding, the department is making available approximately \$200 million for grants, as well as up to \$200 million for loan and grant combinations, and up to \$200 million for low-interest loans.

According to USDA, funds will be awarded to projects that have financially sustainable business models that will bring high-speed broadband to rural homes, businesses, farms, ranches and community facilities, such as first responders, healthcare sites and schools. Applications for funding may be submitted by going to [**www.usda.gov/reconnect**](http://www.usda.gov/reconnect).

On the ReConnect program, Fred Keller made the following statement: "I thank Secretary Sonny Perdue and the Trump administration for continuing to prioritize rural broadband expansion. Providing rural broadband is key to the future economic growth and opportunity in rural areas like Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District. "Government partnering with the private sector to fill the gaps is paramount to ensuring services are deployed effectively." – ***Westfield (Tioga Co.) Free Press Courier***

Huawei Technologies Co. filed a lawsuit against U.S. carrier Verizon Communications Inc. to demand it pay fees for the use of a dozen patents in its networks, escalating a long-simmering dispute between the two telecom giants.

Huawei's lawsuit, filed in federal district court in Texas late Wednesday, argues that Verizon should pay the Chinese company for its use of a variety of telecommunications technologies patented by the Shenzhen-based company, which is the world's largest maker of telecommunications equipment and the No. 2 seller of cellular phones.

The Wall Street Journal first reported last year that Huawei was **demanding payments** from Verizon for allegedly using its patents without a license. The lawsuit comes after the two sides met numerous times in the U.S., as recently as last month, to discuss the dispute without a resolution, according to the lawsuit. Song Liuping, Huawei's chief legal officer, said Verizon has "benefited from patented technology that Huawei developed over many years of research and development." The lawsuit doesn't specify a monetary value for the patents at issue, and says compensation for Huawei should be determined at trial.

A Verizon spokesman called the lawsuit "a PR stunt" and "a sneak attack on our company and our nation. The action lacks merit, and we look forward to vigorously defending our company and our nation." Huawei's move is likely to further inflame tensions between the Chinese company and Washington, which for years has blocked Huawei from selling its products in the U.S. and has been lobbying allies against using its equipment in their 5G network rollouts. U.S. officials believe the Chinese company's gear could be used to spy for Beijing or disrupt communications, which Huawei denies. The Wall Street Journal has reported that the company **has a history of being accused by rivals of technology theft**.

The Trump administration's anti-Huawei campaign faced a setback last week when **the U.K. decided to allow Huawei to supply 5G technology** to its carriers, with restrictions on its use in sensitive parts of the network and a cap on the company's 5G market share. The European Union last week also stopped short of recommending a ban to its members. The U.S. administration has also been pushing to tighten rules enacted last year restraining American technology companies from selling parts and software to Huawei, but the effort was paused following **pushback within the administration**.

Philadelphia Inquirer
The Trump impeachment trial is over. What does it mean for Pennsylvania in 2020?

Some U.S. allies have blocked Huawei in their 5G networks, including Australia, New Zealand and Japan. On Wednesday, Nicholas Jonathan Read, the CEO of Vodafone Group PLC, said the European carrier would remove all Huawei gear from sensitive “core” areas of its EU networks over five years at a cost of about 200 million euros (\$220 million) after a pause on new purchases for those parts of its networks last year.

According to the lawsuit, Verizon is using Huawei’s technology without a license in several applications, including in its routers and switches and in enterprise services. Verizon isn’t a customer of Huawei. The lawsuit references technologies allegedly used by Verizon and branded by other vendors such as Cisco Systems Inc., which competes with Huawei in telecom equipment. The patents at issue involve longstanding telecom technologies such as those for optical transmission and digital communications. They don’t concern next-generation 5G technology.

It is the third recent high-profile lawsuit that Huawei has filed in the U.S. Last year, the Chinese company sued the Trump administration, seeking to block a law prohibiting U.S. agencies and contractors from buying its products. **It is also suing** the Federal Communications Commission over a rule prohibiting U.S. rural carriers from accessing a federal subsidy to buy Huawei equipment. – ***Wall Street Journal***

What a week, eh?

Super Bowl and its halftime show, Groundhog Day and its winterless winter, Iowa caucus chaos, the State of the Union and the state of President Trump’s impeachment, and our Groundhog Day-like state budget. A week of non-stop action. Made me think of a classic movie line from Russell Crowe in the title role of the Oscar-winning Ridley Scott 2000 film “Gladiator.” After violently dispatching a bunch of opponents in staged combat before a cheering crowd, **Crowe spreads his arms and yells, “Are you not entertained?”** Well, are you not?

Come on, the week offered something for everybody. Some of it surprising (**Nancy Pelosi tearing up Trump’s SOU speech right behind him**). Much of it predictable. The Super Bowl, for example, had a stunning comeback by a team, the Kansas City Chiefs (of Missouri, not Kansas, Mr. President), and their young quarterback, Patrick Mahomes, known for stunning comebacks. So, yeah, they and he did what they and he do.

And that halftime show! Jennifer Lopez *and* Shakira! That’s entertainment! As long as you put aside predictable thoughts of a patriarchal multibillion-dollar male-centric industry objectifying women. And, wow, **Pennsylvania’s own Punxsutawney Phil predicted the current non-winter winter** means an early spring. Hurray for rubber-stamping rodents!

Iowa caucuses totally screwed up in a year politics seem totally screwed up? I get that. All the more reason to continue to ask -- why Iowa? And to imagine, especially with Pennsylvania’s new voting laws and new voting machines, what electoral horrors await us. Meanwhile, **Trump’s third State of the Union Address** provided 80 minutes of high-end performance art, from Rush Limbaugh’s Medal of Freedom to the moving reunion of a military family, all presented as a campaign ad, including chants of “FOUR MORE YEARS!” This on the same day **Trump’s approval rating reached its highest point (49 percent) since taking office** -- *despite being impeached and at trial in the Senate.*

Oh, and impeachment. Let’s see. If memory serves, it was early last August when House Judiciary Chairman Jerry Nadler announced formal impeachment proceedings against the president. And ever since then every sensate voice expressed the obvious over and over: The Dem-run House would impeach; the GOP-run Senate would acquit. And guess what? Despite the wailings of Washington and the obsessions of the bubble people on cable news, we got just that. And, depending where you stand, the end of partisan efforts to kill a presidency, or the death of democracy.

We also saw the kickoff Tuesday of the annual fight over how to run a state. As usual, **Democratic Gov. Wolf wants to do lots of stuff**. Republicans running the legislature don’t. Wolf wants old favorites: a minimum wage hike, shale tax to pay for infrastructure fixes, municipal fee (read tax) to pay for State Police protection. Plus \$204 million for new scholarships to state universities, \$1 billion to free old school buildings of lead and asbestos. And gun control (as if). GOP bosses immediately squawked about more spending, more borrowing, additional debt, and pressed the need for “fiscal restraint.”

Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman called Wolf's asks "talking points" for Wolf's supporters, and said Republicans will pull the governor "back to the middle" to get a budget done (which, of course, means let's keep the state running on idle which is just the way we like it). That's a good bet since this is an election year. No heavy lifting, no long fights, pass a budget by July 1 and hurry home to run for reelection.

Still, all in all, a politically-stimulating week. With more to come. More Democratic debates and primaries. Trump surely providing more of what these days passes for news. Plus, the Oscars Sunday night are bound to include some political quips. And, for many, more entertainment. So, whew, what a week, eh? – **John Baer's column in *Harrisburg Patriot-News***

