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February 21, 2019

**Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Geraldine Aaron, 91, philanthropist and wife of Daniel Aaron, a Comcast founder

Atlantic Broadband has completed its acquisition of the cable system serving Springfield, WV, from Comcast. The acquisition closed on Feb. 15. Atlantic Broadband plans to both upgrade and integrate the cable system into its existing infrastructure in Hampshire County, WV, to offer new services, including high-speed Internet, digital phone, and expanded video options for both residential and business customers.

**Politico**  
Trump cautions against 'blocking out' tech in call for 5G networks

"We have had a long commitment to bringing advanced telecommunications services, including broadband Internet, to historically underserved areas," said Curt Kosko, senior vice president and general manager for Atlantic Broadband. "Until now, residents and businesses here have been restricted to a limited package of video channels, with no broadband Internet or phone. As a result of this acquisition, the Springfield community will soon enjoy the very best video, Internet and phone services available, all delivered over an advanced, fiber-rich network."

**Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**  
If everyone is using the 5G term, does that mean we should know what it is?

Atlantic Broadband will be reaching out to homes and businesses in the community in the weeks ahead to share information about the company's plans to upgrade the services, as well as the options available for residential and business customers. — **Broadband Technology Report**

**InsuranceNewsNet.com**  
Digital Health Market to Be at Forefront by 2025

**MediaPost**  
More Than 19 Million Lack Broadband Access

"Oops! That wasn't supposed to happen."

**Ars Technica**  
Hollywood tries to cripple several alleged pirate TV services in one lawsuit

That's how Verizon began an email apologizing to customers after the Pennsylvania attorney general sued the communications giant for allegedly failing to deliver on marketing promises. The email appears to be part of Verizon's effort to make good on its promotional offers after Attorney General Josh Shapiro filed the lawsuit against the wireless company last week, claiming customers were unable to obtain promised Amazon Prime memberships and Echo devices. "We've heard from some customers that they had trouble redeeming their Fios promotion," Verizon wrote in an email on Feb. 14. "If you experienced any issues, we're sorry about that. We want to let you know that your reward is ready and you're just a few clicks away from redeeming."

**USA Today**  
Why are TVs so cheap now? Well, your smart TV is watching you and making extra money, too

**Harrisburg Patriot-News**  
Pa. senators question governor's order to replace

**county voting machines by  
2020**

Besides the apology, the email, sent three days after the lawsuit was filed, provided customers with a link to redeem the promotional incentives, including Amazon gift cards. Verizon offered Amazon products to customers who signed up for a two-year contract for internet, television, and phone service, according to the lawsuit filed in Philadelphia Common Pleas Court. But some customers didn't get the promised incentives, and they faced a \$350 termination fee for breaking the two-year contract, the suit says. Shapiro asks in the suit that Verizon stop the marketing campaign and pay unspecified restitution and penalties.

Nearly three dozen Verizon customers have come forward with complaints about the promotion since Shapiro announced the suit, Attorney General's Office spokesman Joe Grace said Wednesday. In 15 cases, consumers have filed formal complaints with the Bureau of Consumer Protection, and agents are investigating, he added. "Verizon has a legal responsibility to deliver on its promised incentives, yet they are continuing to fail consumers," Shapiro said in a statement. "The company has offered repeated assurances that the redemption issues have been resolved, yet my office is still hearing from consumers who haven't received their incentives."

Last week, Verizon spokesperson Richard Young said the company was "frankly surprised" by the lawsuit. "We've been engaged in a productive dialogue with the Attorney General's Office," Young said on Feb. 11. "We had a few technical issues with this promotion, but we have worked hard to address all the issues we know about. Lawsuit or no lawsuit, we will do right by our customers."

Verizon began the marketing campaign in November 2018, according to the lawsuit. The company told customers they would receive an email with instructions for claiming the incentive after their accounts were active for 31 days. However, some customers didn't get the hyperlink needed to redeem the Amazon products, according to the lawsuit. "Consumers who called Verizon to inquire about their inability to claim their items were placed on hold, were transferred to multiple Verizon representatives, were told someone from Verizon would call them back, did not receive a call back, and were forced to call Verizon again and go through the same cycle," the lawsuit claimed. At that point, customers were locked into the contract and beyond a 30-day window to cancel without an early termination fee, according to the lawsuit. – *Philadelphia Inquirer*

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Walt Disney Co. is said to have pulled its advertising spending from YouTube, joining other companies including Nestle SA, after a blogger detailed how comments on Google's video site were being used to facilitate a "soft-core pedophilia ring." Some of the videos involved ran next to ads placed by Disney and Nestle.

All Nestle companies in the U.S. have paused advertising on YouTube, a spokeswoman for the company said Wednesday in an email. Video game maker Epic Games Inc. and German packaged food giant Dr. August Oetker KG also said they had postponed YouTube spending after their ads were shown to play before the videos. Disney has also withheld its spending, according

to people with knowledge of the matter, who asked not to be identified because the decision hasn't been made public.

On Sunday, Matt Watson, a video blogger, [posted a 20-minute clip](#) detailing how comments on YouTube were used to identify certain videos in which young girls were in activities that could be construed as sexually suggestive, such as posing in front of a mirror and doing gymnastics. Watson's video demonstrated how, if users clicked on one of the videos, YouTube's algorithms recommended similar ones. By Wednesday, Watson's video had been viewed more than 1.7 million times. "Any content --including comments -- that endangers minors is abhorrent and we have clear policies prohibiting this on YouTube. We took immediate action by deleting accounts and channels, reporting illegal activity to authorities and disabling violative comments," a spokeswoman for YouTube said in an email.

Total ad spending on the videos mentioned was less than \$8,000 within the last 60 days, and YouTube plans refunds, the spokeswoman said. Two years ago, several major advertisers pulled spending from YouTube, the video site owned by Alphabet Inc.'s Google, after ads surfaced next to extremist and violent content. YouTube has also faced criticism for hosting inappropriate videos meant for kids. Google took several steps over the past two years to reassure advertisers about the problem. Many of the brands that boycotted YouTube, including Procter & Gamble Co. and AT&T Inc., have since returned to buying ads on the site. YouTube on Tuesday released an updated [policy](#) about how it will handle content that "crosses the line" of appropriateness. — *Bloomberg*

