

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**From: The Computer Learning Center at Ewing, New Jersey**

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**For further information:** Call 609.882.5086 or Visit [www.clcewing.org](http://www.clcewing.org)

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## **“Adventures in Home Automation”**

### ***Free Computer Program May 3***

**Ewing, NJ:** What if you could remotely connect and control multiple devices in your home -- garage doors, appliances, speakers, security systems, water heaters, you name it? Is such a “smart home” in your future?

On Tuesday, May 3, software programmer and consultant Pat Palmer will present “Adventures in Home Automation,” an overview of her own experiences with the benefits and challenges of upgrading and automating your home. The program, which is free, will begin at 2 p.m. in the Ewing Senior and Community Center, 999 Lower Ferry Road. It will be preceded at 1:30 p.m. by “Q’s and A’s with the CLC Faculty” during which the audience can seek answers to their computer-related questions. No prior registrations are required.

“In recent years, I upgraded my household with several devices,” Palmer notes. “Today there is a whole-house energy monitor, wireless thermostat, programmable timers for the birdcage and plants, dimmable smart LED light bulbs, a robotic vacuum cleaner, and an Amazon Echo to replace the stereo and CD player. This device also provides voice recognition for controlling various other ‘smart’ devices in the house. Some, but not all, are controllable via my smartphone or tablet apps, but all are intended to include at least partial ‘smarts’ or automation.” Palmer has found that these devices often perplex and puzzle visitors to her home who have not yet encountered such automation.

During her program she will describe the devices in her home, the problems they solved, their costs, any installation hassles, and new issues created because of them (and the workarounds she has devised). She will also include some slides and short videos showing several of the devices in action.

Pat Palmer has worked in creating software “for decades,” she notes, including periods at Bell Laboratories as a member of the technical staff. She has also worked as an independent consultant in addition to spending several years teaching college-level computer science courses. Currently she is serving as a programmer and system administrator for a group of algae scientists at the Drexel University’s Academy of Natural Sciences.

The all-volunteer, non-profit Computer Learning Center at Ewing, which is sponsoring this program, offers a range of computer and iPad skills courses for adults in the central New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania region. For more information about the May 3 program, courses or directions, call 609-882-5086, 609-883-1776, Ext. 6205 or visit the CLC website at [www.clcewing.org](http://www.clcewing.org)

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