



An International Association of Technology & Computer User Groups

### Our Club

RCSI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) group open for membership to anyone interested in computers and related technology. Our aim is to provide an exchange of information between users of digital devices. We are not in any way affiliated with any computer manufacturer or software company, and **we do not sell your data or email address.**

### Program Meetings

**No admission fee for non-members. Everyone is welcome!** Second Tuesday of every month, except August, from 6:30pm – 8:30pm.

Help's Half Hour (Q & A) 6:30pm – 7:00pm. *Members and Guests are welcome to attend and bring their computer related questions with them to get answered.*

7:00 – 7:15, Club Business

7:15 – 8:30+, Main Presentation

Come and join in the fun and enjoy a snack! **You are welcome to bring a guest.**

### Become a Member

Go to our website, [www.rcsi.org](http://www.rcsi.org), and download a printed form for use by the Post Office mail, **or** enter your info online and pay with a credit card or PayPal, **or** attend a meeting.

The *Monitor* is published monthly by members of RCSI. Articles by our members may be reprinted by other user groups or nonprofits, without special permission. A courtesy copy may be emailed to the author or Monitor editor.

# The Rochester Computer Society, Inc. a computer/tech club open to everyone



**\*\* Because of COVID-19, all club meetings are held online \*\***

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Rochester, NY

February 2021

**February 9, 'Internet Security/Privacy and Google Tracking' by Rob Truman, via Zoom**

**March 9, 'Technology of Africa', 'Best of CES 2021'**

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**\*\* Because of COVID-19, all club meetings and the Linux sig are currently being held online. \*\***

### Medical innovations poised to transform healthcare in 2021

Brandpoint, 12/30/20

(BPT) - Experts in healthcare are continuously striving to develop new innovations that can improve and save lives. Even amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, scientists, physicians, and researchers continued to advance medical knowledge, enhance screening and diagnostic tools, and improve disease management platforms, bringing new hope to patients in 2021.



“Your Computer User Group of the Air”, Saturdays from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm, with Nick Francesco, Dave Enright, and Steve Rae. Broadcasting on JAZZ 90.1 FM (WGMC) from Rochester, NY. Call 966-JAZZ (585-966-5299) or 800-790-0415

Sound Bytes is the longest running computer call-in show in the known universe.

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*We have stopped printing the Monitor newsletter and leaving hard copies at some area computer repair shops. Digital copies may be obtained from [www.rcsi.org](http://www.rcsi.org) or my Pcloud storage at <https://tinyurl.com/tonydelrcsi> (this link works in PDF version only). Also includes presentation slides and articles too large for this newsletter.*

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#### **Some Past Presentations:**

Cut the Cord, Streaming Services  
Autonomous Cars and Robots  
Open Source and Free Software  
Protecting Your Identity  
Keeping Mobile Devices Secure  
3D Printing, ENABLE project  
Flash Drives-Not Just for Storage  
Features, Mac OS X & Windows  
Tablets, the Programs and Uses  
Personal Finance Software  
Amazing Browser Tips  
Linux is Like Cars  
Drones and Their Many Uses  
Gifts and Gadgets for the Holidays

When it comes to medicine, there's a lot to be excited for in the new year. Here are the top innovations you should know about and the potential impact they may have on healthcare.

#### **Novel blood test detects over 50 types of cancers**

While current guideline-recommended cancer screenings in the U.S. are critical, they are limited, testing for just five cancers and screening for a single cancer at a time. The Galleri test from GRAIL strives to transform cancer care and save lives by detecting a multitude of cancers at once and at earlier stages, when treatment is more likely to be effective.

In clinical validation studies, an earlier version of Galleri demonstrated the ability to detect more than 50 types of cancers - over 45 of which lack recommended screening today - with a very low false positive rate of less than 1%, all through a single blood draw. Galleri will be commercially available in 2021 and could have a tremendous human and economic impact. Learn more at [grail.com/galleri](http://grail.com/galleri).

#### **Life-changing vaccinations for COVID-19**

With pharmaceutical companies accelerating vaccine development timelines to curb the COVID-19 pandemic, and healthcare researchers around the world collaborating and exploring solutions, hope is on the horizon: long-awaited vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Now in the process of being distributed, the vaccine will first be available to vulnerable populations and frontline workers most at risk of the virus.

#### **Smart-device connected pacemakers**

Pacemakers and defibrillators are implantable devices that regulate and correct heartbeats through electrical pulse. Remote monitoring of these devices is essential to ensure proper functioning, which in the past has occurred through bedside technology that communicates data to healthcare teams. This can be cumbersome, confusing, and time-consuming for patients.

In 2021, patients will have new pacemaker options that work through wireless communication to a mobile app that provides data to their physicians. In addition to streamlining the data collection process, these apps are intended to engage the patient more deeply in their healthcare so they better understand their wellness journey.

#### **Telehealth and remote patient monitoring**

Resource constraints and a global pandemic has positioned telehealth to be more widely adopted, with many experts predicting remote healthcare to become standard practice for a multitude of applicable purposes, including routine checkups and mental health appointments. Insurance policy changes are also supporting this option for connecting patients and their providers, even when physically distant.

Although standard telehealth appointments might take place via secure video conference, the potential of virtual healthcare is even more dynamic. Remote patient monitoring uses special technology to connect healthcare teams to patients in their homes and can be used in chronic disease management, post-op recovery, and much more. Patients input vitals and other data and complex algorithms advise healthcare teams of

## Special Interest Group

Linux Sig



**We are back!**

Linux Workshop,  
**third Saturday of  
each month, Noon-4PM**

### NEW LOCATION:

Gates Public Library  
902 Elmgrove Rd, 14624,  
between Buffalo Road and  
531 Expressway.

The room we use is on the second  
floor, SE corner, by the restrooms.

[https://www.meetup.com/  
Interlock-Rochester-Hackerspace/  
events/psggnqybcbxb/](https://www.meetup.com/Interlock-Rochester-Hackerspace/events/psggnqybcbxb/)

### Because of coronavirus,

we meet online. A link will be sent  
by email.

Come and get your questions about  
Linux answered. We have experts  
on hand to fix problems and  
answer questions about Linux and  
FOSS (free and open source  
software). **Bring your system in**  
so we can help you get the most  
out of it. Hope to see you there.

Carl Schmidtman

### Free, Virtual Technology

#### Conferences, ONLINE

presented by APCUG

The 2021 schedule

#### Saturdays:

February 13, May 1,  
August 21, November 6  
from 1 – 4 pm, EST

For Conference Descriptions  
& Registration Links, go to  
[apcug2.org/category/  
virtual-tech-conference](http://apcug2.org/category/virtual-tech-conference)

trend departures so they can act quickly and effectively, helping improve health outcomes and reduce costs.

Reprinted from [www.brandpointcontent.com/article/37014/medical-innovations-poised-to-transform-healthcare-in-2021](http://www.brandpointcontent.com/article/37014/medical-innovations-poised-to-transform-healthcare-in-2021).

## Guide to Data Privacy Day: What It Is and How to Stay Safe Online

**Data Privacy Day, January 28, 2021**

*Understanding how information is saved, and what you're agreeing to when surfing the web and using online sites, apps, and services is the key to protecting your privacy online.*



### Data Privacy Day

Data Privacy Day is an international event that occurs every year on 28 January. The purpose of Data Privacy Day is to raise awareness and promote privacy and data protection best practices. It is currently observed in the United States, Canada, Israel and 47 European countries.

Data privacy day is an important step in helping average people protect their privacy online, and helping bigger companies take the proper care to protect the data of their consumers. In this article, we'll cover all the basics you need to know about Data Privacy Day. Let's jump in with learning about the holiday itself.

### What is Data Privacy Day?

Data Privacy Day is held each year on January 28 as an international effort to create awareness about the importance of developing good data privacy practices as an Internet user. Many organizations help teach the importance of best practices for safety, privacy, and keeping data safe online.

The campaign is led by the [National Cyber Security Alliance \(NCSA\)](http://NationalCyberSecurityAlliance.org), along with a committee of Internet privacy professionals. It was first celebrated in 2007, and is also known as Data Protection Day in Europe. Its main purpose is simply to help people develop good habits for protecting their privacy when using the Internet.

### What is data privacy?

Data privacy, also referred to as "information privacy," is the ability to interact with data, the Internet, and other technologies while maintaining the security and privacy of that information when interacting with it. This means understanding what can be shared or disseminated and what cannot.

Data privacy is always changing, like with the [GDPR regulations](http://GDPRregulations.com) that came into effect in spring of 2018. This is a concern for many large companies that utilize the Internet for their businesses, but it also affects everyday casual technology users who share aspects of their personal information online. This can include a multitude of different pieces of information, most commonly:

- **Sharing personal identity information** – names, addresses, Social Security Numbers

## RCSI Officers

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Help's Half Hour . . Jan Rothfuss

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Webmaster: . . . . . Bob Avery  
Membership: . . . . . Jan Rothfuss

## Planning Meeting

Held on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month  
at 7 pm, at St. John's Meadows,  
Briarwood building. ANY CLUB  
MEMBER MAY ATTEND.

**NOTE:** Because of Covid-19, we  
meet online, via Zoom.

## Newsletter Printing

Limited copies will be printed and  
available at some of the local  
computer shops. *A few copies will  
be available at our meetings.*

## Club Mailing Address

Rochester Computer Society, Inc  
PO Box 18516  
Rochester, NY 14618

- **Sharing financial information** – credit card numbers, bank account numbers
- **Sharing biological information** – sending samples of your DNA to [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) or [23andMe.com](https://www.23andme.com)
- **Sharing health care records** – having blood test results published online
- **Location-based information** – using GPS and other location services on your phone
- **Web surfing preferences** – search engine preferences, cookies

To learn more about this in detail, check out this free course on [Internet Privacy](https://www.internetprivacy.com). It includes the basics: how privacy policies work, how your Internet data is tracked and sold, and how to better manage your browser history and browser cookies.

- **Sharing personal identity information** – names, addresses, Social Security Numbers
- **Sharing financial information** – credit card numbers, bank account numbers
- **Sharing biological information** – sending samples of your DNA to [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) or [23andMe.com](https://www.23andme.com)
- **Sharing health care records** – having blood test results published online
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## Find a Virtual Data Privacy Day Celebration

<a href="https://www.knowledgenet.org/virtual-louisville">Virtual Louisville KnowledgeNet Happy Hour: January 26, 2021</a>	January 26, 2021
<a href="https://www.knowledgenet.org/virtual-moscow">Virtual Moscow KnowledgeNet: 28 January 2021</a>	January 28, 2021
<a href="https://www.knowledgenet.org/virtual-netherlands">Virtual Netherlands KnowledgeNet: 12 January 2021</a>	January 12, 2021
<a href="https://www.knowledgenet.org/virtual-portland">Virtual Portland KnowledgeNet Happy Hour: January 28, 2021</a>	January 28, 2021
<a href="https://www.knowledgenet.org/virtual-switzerland">Virtual Switzerland KnowledgeNet: 19 January 2021</a>	January 19, 2021

Printed from the websites of <https://techboomers.com/data-privacy-day> and <https://staysafeonline.org/data-privacy-day/>.



## Tidbits of probably useless information

Which animals have the longest tails based on the tail to torso length ratio.

The award for longest tail in the bird kingdom goes to the male long-tailed **widowbird**, which can be found throughout Africa. This species has an impressive tail length with between 6 and 8 feathers that measure 20 inches in length, or four times the length of its body.

The longest tail found at the depths of the ocean belongs to the **whiptail stingray** family, which inhabits warm to tropical waters all over the world from the Pacific Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. Its tail can reach measurements of up to three times the length of its body for a total length of around 20 feet.

The longest tail in the mammal kingdom belongs to a surprisingly small rodent: the **long-eared jerboa**. This animal can grow to a length of between 2.8 and 3.5 inches with a tail length of between 5.9 and 6.4 inches, or around double its body size. It inhabits areas in the northwestern regions of China as well as the southernmost areas of Mongolia.

The **Asian grass lizard** has the longest tail in both the reptile and animal world. Its tail measures approximately 10 inches, which is three times the length of its body. This lizard, also known as the long-tailed grass lizard, inhabits several countries in Southeast Asia.

## LINUX SIG

You guessed it. The library is closed, so Carl sent out a link last April to try an online meeting, using Jitsi. You might not get the total hands on approach, but you can ask questions and share screens during the meeting. The Linux Workshop will take place the **third Saturday of each month**, from Noon-4PM. No, you can't bring your machine in, but you can describe your problem and Carl and the other Linux gurus will try and help you. This is a video conference, so dress appropriately.

If you are not on the Linux emailing list, you can request a link to the workshop by contacting Carl Schmidtman, at [unixgeek@faultline.com](mailto:unixgeek@faultline.com).

\*\*\*\*\* SOFTWARE and HARDWARE \*\*\*\*\*

## What's the Best Long-Term Storage Media? Tips to Avoid Losing Data in Your Lifetime

by Leo Notenboom, <https://askleo.com/>  
Making Technology Work For Everyone

Choosing the right long-term storage media is part of protecting your data from degradation or other forms of loss. But there's more to it than just media. I currently have images stored on [memory](#) cards, thumb drives, CDs, and DVDs. Which is best long term? Probably none of the above. Technology keeps changing, of course, so the best long-term storage media will also continue to change. What we really need here is more than a choice; we need a strategy.

There are varying opinions, but traditional magnetic hard drives seem the most likely to last the longest for archiving data. The best approach is to refresh the data by periodically copying to more current media. Data formats also come into play. Saving in open and/or ubiquitous file formats like pdf will help ensure the data can be read years from now.

### Storage media

You'll get a lot of conflicting answers as to the best long-term storage media. Many people feel strongly that "X" is the way to go, and others feel just as strongly that, no, it needs to be "Y". They can both be right if you



approach it properly. For example, the right solution might be both "X" and "Y". I'll review the options and describe what I do.

### Optical media

Once upon a time, CDs and DVDs were the go-to media for archival. They had oodles of capacity and didn't take much room. We quickly discovered that quality matters. In fact, it matters a lot. Many cheap

## Jere's Tech Tips

By Jere Minich, Apcug Advisor,  
Region 5 (AL, FL, GA, SC)

### 7 BEST NOTE-TAKING APPS THAT WORK ON IPHONE

**AND ANDROID** – The Apple Notes app works perfectly well across Apple devices such as iPhone, iPad, and Mac. Many iPhone and iPad owners wonder whether they can share Apple Notes with Android users. The answer is yes and no. Even though you can open Apple Notes app on your Android phone, the experience isn't what one would expect. So it's not a great option, and users want cross-platform note-taking apps that would work on Android and iOS.

Go to this Guiding Tech web article for details.

<https://bit.ly/3ibzO1u>

### 9 AMAZON FIRE TABLET TIPS YOU MUST TRY

– Your Amazon Fire tablet can do a lot! Get the most out of it with these tips and tricks. The Amazon Fire tablet range continues to rise in popularity and adds new features with each release. But why is it so popular? It could be the low price, but does this mean you're missing out on important features found on other tablets if you opt for an Amazon Fire?

Go to this Make Use Of article for the tips.

<https://bit.ly/2SpnbW0>

writable CDs that were written just 5 or 10 years ago are no longer readable. That's exactly the scenario we're trying to avoid.

Archival-quality CDs and DVDs (and perhaps Blu-Ray) are probably worth the money if you're thinking of storing for many, many years. There are experts that even as recently as a few years ago will tell you this is the way to go. I suspect it's a very safe bet for the most important data. The real problem is that what was once big is now small. That 4.7GB DVD might be small given some of the things we might want to archive these days, like video or lots and lots and lots of photos. An "oodle" just isn't what it used to be.

#### Flash memory

I don't have a lot of faith in memory cards and thumb drives. Theoretically, they should last for a long time. But, again, there is such a variation in quality, it's just not something I would put a lot of faith in. I know many people use them successfully. But whether or not they're going to be readable 10 years from now, for example, I really can't say. I will say that if media starts to go bad, a simple one-bit error has the potential to make the entire drive unrecoverable — unlike optical or magnetic media, where data-recovery techniques stand a better chance of success.

#### Traditional hard drives

Traditional magnetic spinning-platter hard drives — HDDs — are probably the most practical long-term storage if they're stored properly. What that means, is keeping them away from moisture and not storing them around strong magnetic fields. I'd feel confident in that data being accessible for decades. You will also need to manage them properly, perhaps updating to newer technology as it becomes available. More on that below. HDDs are big; they store a lot of data. Even "older" drives — just a few years old — might be considered small when used in a computer, but if converted to an external drive, they make for excellent long-term storage.

#### SSDs

Solid state drives are best thought of as a cross between flash memory and traditional hard drives. My take on them is that the jury's still out. They're certainly of better quality than your average thumb drive, but it's still not clear if they'll hold their data for decades. Since they are both still smaller and more costly than traditional hard drives, to me they don't seem like a good choice for long-term storage right now. That could change.

#### Future compatibility

When it comes to compatibility between today's technology and that of years from now, there are two issues: physical and logical.

#### Physical compatibility

Will computers 10 or 20 years from now be able to read the media we write things to today? For example, if you stored something on floppy disks 20 or 30 years ago, you are now dealing with the fact that computers no longer have floppy drives. You can find an external floppy drive for 3.5 inch floppies, but if it's much older — say a five-inch disk

## Scam Alerts

From the website:

[www.consumerfraudreporting.org](http://www.consumerfraudreporting.org)

### Debt Collection:

Most of the complaints under this category involve debt collectors. Consumers tell of receiving calls from harassing collectors who are threatening and will repeatedly call attempting to collect a debt. Other complaints that fall under this category involved credit/debit card fees, pay day loans, credit repair companies and unauthorized use of credit/debit cards. Some of these complaints involved hidden fees and billing disputes as well.

### Fake Government Officials

If you received an email, letter or phone call from a government agency (typically the IRS or FBI) and it instructs you to wire, Western Union or MoneyGram money someplace, or follow a link and enter information - don't believe it! The U.S. government would never instruct anyone to use those methods to pay any bill or carry out a financial transaction, particularly with an overseas bank or agency.

### Identity Theft, Phishing and Pharming

Scammers gain access to your confidential information, like Social Security numbers, date of birth and then use it to apply for credit cards, loans and financial accounts. Typically, the victim receives an email that appears to be from a credible, real bank or credit card company, with links to a website and a request to update account information. But the website and email are fakes, made to look like the real website.

common at the dawn of the PC era — you'll have a difficult time finding a way to read it. Optical drives are beginning to disappear as well.

I'm fairly confident that the [USB](#) interface, and thus USB external drives, are going to be supported for a very long time. As I write this, USB 3 is common, and USB 4 is on the horizon; yet even old USB 1 devices still work, albeit more slowly. I'm confident that 20 or 30 years from now, there will still be a USB interface into which I can plug one of today's external drives.

### **Logical compatibility**

Will our computers 10 or 20 years from now have logical compatibility? By "logical", I mean the format of the information we store, and our ability to run programs to read or interpret it. A great example is the impending [death of Adobe Flash](#), after which software that plays Flash-based games will no longer be generally available. People wanting those programs to continue running will need to "do something" (although it's currently unclear what that is).

Compatibility falls into two categories:

- The format of data on disk. Will the NTFS file system still be readable 30 years from now? How about FAT or FAT32? One would hope both will — and indeed, I do expect they will. But historically, there are definitely storage formats that lasted for only a brief time and you'd be hard pressed to recover today.
- The format of the data. Will jpg files still be a thing 30 years from now? Will there be programs that can play mp3 files? Again, one would hope that based on the current ubiquity of those formats, there will be compatible readers for decades. But, again, digital archives are littered with file formats that are understood by no current programs at all. While recovery would theoretically be possible by re-inventing a compatible reader, it's not a simple task.

Left unaddressed, both of these are barriers to the viability of long-term digital archives.

### **What I do**

Clearly, technology is constantly changing. Long-term archiving might not be best thought of as a "set it and forget it" kind of thing. Every so often, it's worth a re-visit. And that's pretty much what I do. I have a strategy.

On the physical/hardware side of things, what I once had on floppies, I eventually copied to CD. Then years later, what I once had on CDs (and a handful of DVDs), I copied to external hard disks. As newer, larger hard disks become available, I occasionally combine data from older, smaller ones to newer, larger drives. The 512GB drives I once used for archival have all now been replaced by at least 1TB drives, and my most recent addition to the mix was an 8TB drive.

This is the management I referred to earlier. By periodically "upgrading" the storage used by your archives to newer technology — copying the old disks to new, say, every 10 years or so — you also sidestep issues with older hardware failing due to age or lack of availability. It does take a little bit of forethought and effort to organize and copy the data. (The floppies were the worst.)

## Some Interesting Websites and Internet Finds

By Steve Costello  
scostello@sefcug.com

*Can You Use Bluetooth Speakers If Your TV isn't Bluetooth Ready?*

<https://thevisualcommunicationgu.com/2020/06/22/can-you-use-bluetooth-speakers-if-your-tv-isnt-bluetooth-ready/>

I have two TVs that are over 10 years old but work fine. I have plenty of Bluetooth speakers and headphones, but neither TV supports Bluetooth. (Note: I have a soundbar hooked to the main TV now, and it supports Bluetooth.)

*How To Enter BIOS In Windows 10*

<https://www.digitalcitizen.life/how-boot-uefi-bios-windows-tablets-convertibles>

You may never need to know this but if you ever need to access, or change, settings of the BIOS of your Windows 10 device, it is good to know.

*3 Different Kindle Homescreens – Which Is Your Favorite?*

<https://blog.the-ebook-reader.com/2020/07/09/3-different-kindle-homescreens-which-is-your-favorite/>

I have been a Kindle user for a long time and did not know this. If you have a newer Kindle, and dislike the default homescreen check out this post for other options.

When it comes to things like the file formats of my data, I have less of a plan and more of an expectation. I expect that file formats ubiquitous today will still be readable in 50 years. That means I save things in common file formats like .jpg, .mp3, and .pdf when I can. I would hope there would be better alternatives in the future, but I expect that because there are so many files in these formats today, they'll always be readable, or convertible somehow, in my lifetime and beyond. Much like ASCII text documents created 50 years ago remain readable today.

### A word about backing up

“If it's in only one place, it's not backed up.” The other way you protect yourself from old hardware failing is the same way you protect yourself from *any* hardware failing: you [back up](#). Make sure you have multiple copies of any data you want to preserve — ideally on different media. Don't put all your eggs in one kind of basket. In my case, that 8TB drive I added to my system is a [backup](#) drive. Any data added to my archives on older disks is automatically copied to the new, larger drive, and thus lives in at least two places.

Whatever strategy you choose and whatever media you use, make absolutely certain to including backing up or some kind of redundancy in your plan. That approach significantly minimizes the risk of choosing the wrong long-term media. There's one more thing, though.

### The [cloud](#)

So far, I haven't mentioned cloud storage. It's something you should consider. I consider my photos my most precious data. In years past, it'd be the photo album I'd reach for on the way out of a burning house. Today that translates into redundancy — lots of redundancy.

I have over a terabyte of photos, including scans of photo albums pre-dating my birth, in Dropbox. Any time I add a photo, it's immediately replicated — backed up — to the cloud *and* to several other of my machines. I could lose all of my hardware — every computer, every [hard disk](#), every everything — and my photos would be waiting for me online.

But I'm not done. I also make a copy of my Dropbox folder outside of Dropbox. That way, in the unlikely event that my Dropbox folder gets hacked or lost and all my files deleted, I'd *still* have a copy here at home. The cloud can absolutely be a part of a very effective archival strategy, particularly for your most important information.

### Bottom line: think about this

Honestly, long-term archival is much like backing up: the best approach is whatever approach you'll actually take. The difference, however, is time. When it comes to expecting to keep something for decades or longer, you'll want to put some thought into exactly how, where, and when you store things. Your children, your grandchildren, and perhaps even more future generations will thank you.

###



## Penguin Platform

By “Free John” Kennedy, Apcug  
Advisor, Regions 3 and 6/7

### **SIMPLICITY DOES MORE THAN SIMPLIFY LINUX**

– If you want a new Linux distro catering to gaming, check out the Simplicity Linux Gaming release. If you prefer a general-purpose computing platform without a gaming focus, try Simplicity’s revamped release. Either way, you will experience a no-nonsense Linux OS that requires no assembly. The article from LinuxInsider tells more.

<http://bit.ly/31W4ayo>

### **11 LINUX COMMANDS I CAN’T LIVE WITHOUT**

– Linux is an important part of our lives, especially as a system administrator. This article shares the Linux commands that I can’t live without. So, let’s begin reading this article from *Red Hat*.

<https://red.ht/2TcDpmV>

### **HOW TO VIEW RUNNING PROCESSES ON LINUX**

– Everything running on a Linux system, from a user application to a system service, is its own separate process. Even if your computer is sitting at a blank terminal screen, there are undoubtedly a slew of processes running in the background. There are several Linux tools we can use to identify all of the processes on our system, and that’s what we’ll be covering in this guide.

HowtoForge article tells you how.

<http://bit.ly/32BOFvT>

## Windows Clipboard Secrets Revealed

Review

By Bob Woods, Webmaster  
Under the Computer Hood User Group

I am sure you have noted that while Microsoft eventually gets around to including free functionality accessories, the freebies often leave a bit to be desired. A shining example is the built-in clipboard. It’s there to use, but until recently, only gave you one shot and doesn’t save anything between reboots. When having to do multiple copy/paste routines, many of us have turned to freeware or shareware to overcome the built-in clipboard limitations.

Several years ago, I purchased a license for the excellent clipboard extender Clipmate by Thornsoft (<http://thornsoft.com/>). Clipmate has many features including saved clipboard contents, editing of the clipboard contents, and the ability to create folders for different clipboard content. But it isn’t free, costing \$35.00. However, there are times where I just need to do a few quick copy/paste inserts. On those occasions I will not launch Clipmate, just use the Windows clipboard.

Somewhere along the line, Microsoft has given the built-in clipboard a history lesson. The clipboard can now hold 25 items. That includes text, images, and content from browser pages. But the history functionality is not turned on by default. You must opt to add this feature. To do that, hold the Windows key and tap your v key (a Windows hotkey combination). A onetime pop up will open asking permission to turn on the clipboard history. From then on when you do a Windows key + v key, a clipboard pop-up window will open allowing you to select from contents in the clipboard. Each saved item will be in its own small window within the clipboard window. At the right of each window, the ellipsis (three dots) will allow you to delete a saved item, pin it which saves it even if you clear the clipboard or restart, and to clear all.

An article at <https://techplugged.com/how-to-clear-clipboard-on-windows-10/> describes multiple ways of clearing the Windows clipboard.

I have found that just opening the clipboard pop up with Windows key + v key and selecting to clear all to be the easiest for me. However, if you only occasionally use the clipboard, you might forget the hotkey shortcut. Setting up one of the methods from the Tech Plugged article might work better for you.

A further update to clipboard functionality is in testing to be released in a future Windows update as discussed in an Infopackets article at <http://www.infopackets.com/news/10797/windows-10-cut-and-paste-get-overhaul>.

Article is from the September 2020 issue, Drive Light, [www.uchug.org](http://www.uchug.org), [Webmasters@uchug.org](mailto:Webmasters@uchug.org).

APCUG, **Tech for Seniors**, via Zoom, is a weekly event on Monday mornings. The session begins at 11:30 a.m. EST for a half-hour of “social time” and at noon, the actual meeting begins and is locked so no one can interrupt the speakers.

The meeting ID is **526-610-331** (there is no password) and you’ll be placed in a waiting room and then admitted.

Here is a link to previous episodes: [\(132\) Ronald Brown – YouTube](#).

## \* \* Jokes Stolen from Everywhere \* \*

These jokes from [Ask Reddit](#) may require a second read to get it.

Just got attacked by 6 dwarves.  
Not Happy.

A priest, a minister, and a rabbit walk into a blood bank. The rabbit says, "I believe that I am a type o."

You know, there's a fine line between fishing and standing on the shore like an idiot.

I'll never forget my dad's face when I gave him his 50th birthday card, tears in his eyes, as he said to me, 'One would have done.'

A father was washing his car with his son and the son asked, "Dad, can't you just use a sponge?"

One day, a police officer pulls a car over and sees the backseat is full of penguins. The officer tells the driver, "You can't be doing this, you need to take these penguins to the zoo!"

The next day, the police officer pulls the same car over again, and says, "Hey! I told you to take these penguins to the zoo!" The driver says, "I did, and today I'm taking them to the movies!"

Plateaus are the highest form of flattery.

A sandwich walks into a bar, the barman says, "Sorry, we don't serve food in here."

## \* \* \* \* \* BITS and PIECES in the NEWS \* \* \* \* \*

**Editor's Note:** To continue reading the following articles, you may copy the long URL at the end of the article and enter it into a web browser or click on the URL in the web version of this newsletter.

### Saudi Arabia is planning a 100-mile line of car-free smart communities

Construction is supposed to start this quarter.

By [Nick Summers](#), [@nisummers](#), January 11, 2021

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is [promising to build](#) a network of smart cities that won't have any cars or roads. It's called [The Line](#), due to its arrangement of "hyper-connected future communities," and will form part of NEOM, a \$500 billion project [announced in October 2017](#). According to the prince, the development will offer "ultra-high-speed transit," autonomous vehicles and an urban layout that ensures basic facilities, such as schools and medical clinics, are never more than a five-minute walk away. "It is expected no journey will be longer than 20 minutes," the project's organizers claimed in a press release today.

One million people are supposed to live inside The Line. It will stretch 170KM, according to the official announcement, and be powered by "100 percent clean energy." The city will be focused on nature, with a pedestrian layer on the surface and two additional layers, for infrastructure and transport, hidden underneath. In addition, the organizers claim that AI will be able to monitor The Line and, using data and predictive models, figure out ways to improve daily life. Construction of this metropolis is supposed to begin this quarter. It's part of Saudi Vision 2030, a project designed to create 380,000 jobs and 180 billion Saudi Riyal (\$48 billion) in GDP.

Read article at [www.engadget.com/the-line-neom-smart-city-saudi-arabia-mohammed-bin-salman-113539487.html](http://www.engadget.com/the-line-neom-smart-city-saudi-arabia-mohammed-bin-salman-113539487.html).

### Computer scientists: We wouldn't be able to control superintelligent machines

New findings from theoretical computer science  
Max Planck Institute for Human Development

We are fascinated by machines that can control cars, compose symphonies, or defeat people at chess, Go, or Jeopardy! While more progress is being made all the time in Artificial Intelligence (AI), some scientists and philosophers warn of the dangers of an uncontrollable superintelligent AI. Using theoretical calculations, an international team of researchers, including scientists from the Center for Humans and Machines at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, shows that it would not be possible to control a superintelligent AI. The study was published in the *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*.

Suppose someone were to program an AI system with intelligence superior to that of humans, so it could learn independently. Connected to the Internet, the AI may have access to all the data of humanity. It

## Odds and Ends

### History of Computers: A Brief Timeline

By [Kim Ann Zimmermann - Live Science Contributor](#)

**2005:** YouTube, a video sharing service, is founded. Google acquires Android, a Linux-based mobile phone operating system.

**2006:** Apple introduces the MacBook Pro, its first Intel-based, dual-core mobile computer, as well as an Intel-based iMac. Nintendo's Wii game console hits the market.

**2007:** The iPhone brings many computer functions to the smartphone.

**2009:** Microsoft launches Windows 7, which offers the ability to pin applications to the taskbar and advances in touch and handwriting recognition, among other features.

**2010:** Apple unveils the iPad, changing the way consumers view media and jump starting the dormant tablet computer segment.

**2011:** Google releases the Chromebook, a laptop that runs the Google Chrome OS.

**2012:** Facebook gains 1 billion users on October 4.

**2015:** Apple releases the Apple Watch. Microsoft releases Windows 10.

could replace all existing programs and take control of all machines online worldwide. Would this produce a utopia or a dystopia? Would the AI cure cancer, bring about world peace, and prevent a climate disaster? Or would it destroy humanity and take over the Earth?

Computer scientists and philosophers have asked themselves whether we would even be able to control a superintelligent AI at all, to ensure it would not pose a threat to humanity. An international team of computer scientists used theoretical calculations to show that it would be fundamentally impossible to control a superintelligent AI.

The study "Superintelligence cannot be contained: Lessons from Computability Theory", was published in the *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*.

The rest of this article is at [www.eurekaalert.org/pub\\_releases/2021-01/mpif-csw011121.php](http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2021-01/mpif-csw011121.php).

### Who needs humans? LG had a 'virtual influencer' unveil devices at its CES keynote

Story by [Ivan Mehta](#)

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all companies are hosting their events virtually. So, why not use a virtual human to announce the product too? LG did just that in its CES keynote last night.

The Korean tech company used a virtual influencer called Reah Keem, a DJ and a travel junkie, to announce LG's new CLOi robot for disinfecting surfaces. She also announced the 2021 line of the company's lightweight Gram laptop and Ultrafind OLED Pro 4K monitor for creative folks.

While she talked about these products, Keem also said that just like us, she missed traveling for gigs. The presentation was smooth and glitch-free, but you could tell that it's a virtual avatar speaking to us, and not a human. Check out this video below to see LG's virtual avatar present its products.

To make her influencer persona more plausible, Keem has [an Instagram account](#) and [a SoundCloud page](#) as well. What we don't know at the moment is that if LG created this AI or used a third-party service.

AI-powered avatars are being more common at events lately. China uses these virtual humans in [their news broadcasts and TV festivals](#).



Korea and Japan also have a thriving culture of [artificially created celebrities](#). However, this is the first time we've seen a major tech company use one of them for keynote presentations, and it could suggest we might see more of these.

This was found at [www.thenextweb.com/plugged/2021/01/12/who-needs-humans-lg-had-a-virtual-influencer-unveil-devices-at-its-ces-keynote/](http://www.thenextweb.com/plugged/2021/01/12/who-needs-humans-lg-had-a-virtual-influencer-unveil-devices-at-its-ces-keynote/).

\* \* \* \* \* CLUB and REGIONAL NEWS \* \* \* \* \*

## RIT, Stanford, Cal Poly Pomona take top spots in Collegiate Pentesting Competition finals

World's best white hat cybersecurity students face off at virtual competition hosted through RIT

by [Scott Bureau](#) Follow [@scottbureau](#), January 11, 2021

A team of Rochester Institute of Technology students took first place at the Collegiate Penetration Testing Competition (CPTC) international finals Jan. 7-10. Stanford University placed second and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona placed third. This is RIT's first time winning the competition, which challenges the world's brightest cybersecurity college students to put their hacking skills to the test.

At the CPTC finals, teams from 15 universities faced off to see who was best at breaking into fabricated computer networks, evaluating their weak points, and presenting plans to better secure them. This year's competition was held virtually through RIT, in Rochester, N.Y.

The [CPTC](#) has become the premier offense-based collegiate computing security event, after starting at RIT six years ago. CPTC is an effective counterpart to the [Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition](#) (CCDC), which is the premier defense-based event for college students.

Several at-large awards were also given to this year's CTPC teams, including:

- Best Report – Stanford University
- Best Presentation – RIT
- Most Fire Memes – Bournemouth University
- Most Professional – City College of San Francisco

The pentesting competition allows students to experience a day in the life of a penetration tester—the in-demand security professionals hired to test and evaluate an organization's computer systems and networks to make sure malicious hackers can't get in.

More information about CPTC is available on the [Collegiate Penetration Testing Competition website](#).

Find this article at [www.rit.edu/news/rit-stanford-cal-poly-pomona-take-top-spots-collegiate-pentesting-competition-finals](http://www.rit.edu/news/rit-stanford-cal-poly-pomona-take-top-spots-collegiate-pentesting-competition-finals).

## RCSI

No, we haven't closed. Our usual meeting place has closed to outsiders, but **we are practicing social distancing online**. We have used Zoom for several of our planning meetings. These meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 pm and are open to any member. A link will be emailed to members, before our next planning meeting. ANY CLUB MEMBER MAY ATTEND and voice their opinions about club operations.

We have already completed several general online meetings, with several hiccups while showing videos. The next online presentation will have been presented before this newsletter is sent out. So, we are working out the bugs.

Ray Baxter put together a great presentation on 'How Tech has Changed the Way We Listen to Music'. Wow, quite a history lesson!

### ***Online During Covid***

#### **Our Usual Meeting Place**

##### **St John's Meadows at**

Johnsarbor Drive, is on the left, past Clinton Avenue, when going West on Elmwood Avenue. The opening in the white fence is Johnsarbor Drive. At the 'T', turn right. The meeting is in the first building on the left – **Briarwood**.

Our meeting place can change. Please check our website before each meeting. [www.rcsi.org](http://www.rcsi.org)