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 September, 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, 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

M□NIT□R

** We are back and meeting in person again **

Vol. 39, No. 10 web: www.rcsi.org Rochester, NY October 2021

October 12, Cybersecurity Awareness Month
presentation by Bob Gosticha, via Zoom

November 9, 'Gifts & Gadgets', by Arpad Kovacs
'The New Space Race, 2021', by Tony Dellelo

In This Issue

                  TEMPORARY, NEW MEETING PLACE
                  See details inside newsletter

President's Corner

How Reliable is Reliable Enough?

by Greg Skalka, President
Under the Computer Hood User Group

Google defines reliability as consistently good in quality or performance; able to be trusted. We all want our technology to perform well, as we depend on it more and more in our lives. In placing a call, turning on our lights, driving to the store, checking our bank balance, or taking a commercial flight, we all want (and perhaps expect) 100% reliability in our experiences with technology. Nothing can be completely

dependable, however, and no matter what we expect, tech failures happen. Reliability can be regulated by government agencies, specified by standards, or simply provided "as-is" by the manufacturer. In the end, it is up to each of us to decide if the reliability levels we get meet our needs.

Most large companies now use an ISO 9000-based quality management system to demonstrate their ability to provide quality products and services that consistently meet their customer's needs. The basics boil down to 'say what you do' and 'do what you say'. Unfortunately, for the customer, the issue is often that not enough is said, and the only standard the customer has is their expectations about quality and reliability; these usually wind up being different from the vendor's.

I have a lot of smart home devices. Many companies make and support products and systems to remotely control lights and devices in your home. You can control them remotely through an app on your smartphone or tablet, or through an Amazon Alexa or Google Home Assistant device. In addition to immediate control, your items can be programmed to turn on and off in a scheduled manner. The manufacturers portray these smart devices as simple and easy to use, so the consumer might assume they are reliable. Unfortunately, they are fairly complex and sometimes not so reliable.

I'm typically up and out of the house to work well before my wife is awake. To make my workday mornings easier (and safer, especially in the darker mornings of winter), I program lights downstairs to come on just before I would come out of our bedroom. This gives me a little bit of light to help me see when going down the stairs before dawn. I use a Belkin Wemo smart plug, with a family room lamp plugged into it, to give me some of that light. I've programmed the ON time in the Wemo app so that at my selected time the Belkin servers send a message over the Internet and through my Wi-Fi to the smart plug to turn on. Once I get downstairs, I turn the light off manually with our Amazon Echo Show as quietly as possible, using the screen icons rather than voice control. In this case, the OFF command is sent from my Show over the Internet to Amazon's servers, and then passed to the Belkin servers and back over the Internet to my Wemo smart plug.

This seems like a lot of complex communications, but it has worked very reliably over the four months since I set this up. Last week, however, it didn't do so well, failing to turn off correctly on two different days. On the first day, Alexa could not turn the light off; I had to go into the Wemo app to do it. On another day, even the Wemo app could not turn the light off, as the smart plug appeared as inactive in the app. I finally had to resort to pressing the button on the smart plug to shut it off. In both cases, everything worked fine again after a short time. I was happy to see it working, but was reminded of the engineering saying "Problems that go away by themselves can come back by themselves."

Though I was not happy that the smart plug worked unreliably those two days, was there anyone I could blame? Perhaps not, as Belkin and Amazon had said I could control my light in this way, but they didn't say it was guaranteed to work 100% of the time. That it had worked reliably all but two days in four months is in reality pretty good, considering the plug cost only $20 (and the Echo Show cost $50).

This brings up one key factor in the reliability equation: high reliability generally costs more. The successful landing of the NASA Perseverance Mars rover last week was a tremendous technical achievement, but it came at a cost of around $2.5 billion. That kind of money can buy a lot of reliability, however. The NASA Opportunity rover, launched in 2003, cost $400 million and had a planned mission duration on Mars of around 90 days, yet it continued exploring and communicating until 2018. NASA's Curiosity rover has been operating on Mars for the last 8.5 years, far exceeding its original 2-year mission life. Hopefully, Perseverance can demonstrate a similarly high level of reliability.

Money can't buy total reliability, however. Since its inception in 1958, NASA has spent over $650 billion (perhaps $1.2 trillion after inflation). It has had many great successes, putting 12 men on the moon, exploring all our system's planets with robotic probes, and currently has put five rovers successfully on Mars. It has had some tremendous reliability successes, such as the Voyager 1 and 2 probes that are still providing communications as they leave our solar system. It has also endured tragic failures, the worst of which are the losses of crews of the Space Shuttles Challenger and Columbia, and Apollo 1.

Not everything needs to be as reliable as a spacecraft, but many things, especially where failure would involve loss of life or a high economic loss, require high reliability. Structural items such as buildings, bridges, and tunnels, and transportation items like aircraft, trains, ships, and cars, all need higher safety and reliability standards. You may sit in both, but you justifiably have greater concerns and expectations about safety and reliability for your automobile than for your La-Z-Boy recliner.

One way to mitigate risks when reliability and safety are not deemed sufficient is through back-up systems. Hospitals may add back-up power generators to compensate for a power grid that is not totally reliable. There probably are measures that should have been taken (and now likely will) to harden the Texas power grid against the extreme cold weather it experienced recently.

Our computers hold information internally in rotating magnetic platter hard drives and SSDs, but these are not immune to failure, so prudent users back up that information. Automobile tires can fail for a variety of reasons, so automakers offer several back-up systems, including a spare tire and changing tools, puncture sealant, and run-flat tires. Tire pressure monitoring systems are now required for all automobiles, as a safety backup.

We have continued to add safety features to motor vehicles over the years to reduce the number and severity of accidents. Safety glass, power steering and brakes, seat belts, airbags, energy-absorbing bumpers, and rear back-up cameras all add safety to cars through technology. Despite these enhancements, however, over 16500 Americans died in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2020. Now automakers are looking to add self-driving technology to our highways; will it be safe and reliable enough?

Sometimes reliability is not as important as other factors, such as cost or convenience. Often new technologies are not as reliable initially, but in time may improve (or wind up being shunned by consumers). I like

my Amazon Alexa devices, but I don't always get the responses I expect. Considering the complexity of the system, low cost to me and less than a critical need for the information, a less than perfect performance is acceptable. Alexa may not always provide the information I'm looking for, but I'm easily able to recognize this and so am not really harmed by her "incompetence".

Some kinds of unreliability are more acceptable than are others. If your smart home lock is unreliable, it might be better if it occasionally fails to unlock when you get home, rather than sometimes not locking when you leave. It is the same with computer security; it is better to err on the side of being too restrictive than too permissive. Users can put up with only so much in unreliable access, however. New technologies such as fingerprint scanning and facial recognition for login, though more convenient than passwords, won't gain wide acceptance if valid users are not reliably recognized. If the convenience difference is great enough, however, users might be willing to accept having to scan multiple times for access.

Reliability in our technology is important, but the need for it varies with the product and the potential downsides. Our sensitivity to quality issues should be greater for a Boeing 737 MAX airplane than for a wireless router. We as individuals and as a society will have to weigh the cost, quality, and risk trade-offs to determine in each case how much reliability is enough.

Reprinted from the www.uchug.org newsletter, president@uchug.org.

How Do I Stop My Neighbor Using My IP Address?

It implies much more than just your address.

by Leo A. Notenboom

If it's certain a neighbor is using your IP address without permission, you need to take steps. But first you need to make sure.

My neighbor used my IP address to send out emails. How does this work? Can I change my IP address? I have Googled this topic and the answers are very confusing.

It all depends on how they got your IP address and whether it's really yours at all. At least one scenario represents a serious security risk, but there are also situations in which it's not really an issue under your control.

My neighbor and my IP address

- The only way your neighbor can truly be using your IP address is if they have access to your local network.
- The most common scenario is that they've connected to your open wireless hotspot. Secure the hotspot by adding a wireless password.
- It's also possible that your IP address has changed, and was once theirs.
- It's very easy to misread IP address information, depending on your source.
- Malicious software on your machine could also be sending email appearing to be from your neighbor.

It implies they're on your network

If your neighbor is truly using *your* IP address, it implies *they are connected to your network*.

That's a bad thing, unless you trust them and have explicitly allowed them to do so. I'm guessing from your question that's not the case. The most common reason is that you have an open wireless hotspot.

- You have a wireless router or access point.
- The wireless connection is *not* password protected.
- Your neighbor is in range and is using it.

Your neighbor could be completely unaware. It can happen accidentally if they're not paying attention to what they're connecting to. I would not assume malicious intent unless you have information that says otherwise. The fix is very simple: *password-protect the wireless connection*. Configure the wireless access point to use WPA2 or 3, which requires a password to connect. No one except those you've authorized will be able to connect to your network. As a bonus, your connections will be encrypted and no one will be able to "sniff" them (as is possible at most free wireless hotspots).

Other explanations

There are a few other reasons your neighbor might *appear* to have sent email "from" your IP address. You could have misread the email headers. Your IP address, as the destination when you download your email, may appear within it, in addition to the IP and email address the mail was sent from. You and your neighbor could have IP addresses assigned by the same ISP. This has two interesting ramifications:

Your IP address could be very similar to that of your neighbor. Even a single-digit difference means it's a different IP address. Read the IP addresses carefully.

- IP addresses can change; your IP address today could easily have been your neighbor's IP address yesterday, when they were sending email.

The email might not be from your neighbor at all. Your machine could be infected with a spam-sending virus or bot, and it could be spoofing the "From" address so as to *appear* that it was sent by your neighbor.

Changing your IP address

Can you change your IP address? Well, it depends. First, if you've been assigned a static (unchanging) IP address, you'll need to contact your ISP and coordinate changing it with them. If you have a more common dynamic IP address (if you don't know, then it likely is), you can try to change the address by unplugging your internet-connected modem and/or router, waiting awhile, and plugging it back in again. This causes it to "ask" for a new IP address. The problem here is that there's no way to *force* the newly assigned address to be different than whatever you had before. Many ISPs try to give you the same IP address for "a while", even when you're not connected for a time, as it can be slightly more efficient for them.

# # #

Jere's Tech Tips

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

DUCKDUCKGO VS. GOOGLE: THE BEST SEARCH ENGINE FOR YOU – DuckDuckGo is the privacy-focused search engine you've been looking for. How do its features stack up against Google Search?

Google is one of the world's largest companies. Although they have expanded into many areas of our lives, they are still best known for their search engine. To keep their services free, Google records a staggering amount of data about our online habits. That data is used to show us targeted advertising—Google's primary source of income.

If you're looking for a privacy-focused alternative to Google search, then the DuckDuckGo search engine might be the answer. DuckDuckGo describes itself as "the search engine that doesn't track you."

Most search engines collect and store search data, with Google even linking that data to your account. The recorded information is used to personalize your search results, and to show you targeted advertising.

But DuckDuckGo (DDG) doesn't track you and opts not to personalize your search results.

The site has grown steadily since its inception, going from an average 79,000 daily searches in 2010, to 79 million daily and 61 billion total searches as of November 2020.
Make Use Of has more information here.
https://bit.ly/36LiYnh.

The Day the Music App Died

By John Krout, Writer/Presenter
Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society

Google's Play Music app is gone on some Android devices, and soon will be completely gone.

INTRODUCTION

I am a music collector. I have a large collection of audio CDs; roughly 1,600 songs are on the micro-SD card in my Samsung Galaxy S10 phone. I bought that phone in late 2019, and my carrier recently upgraded the phone's Android OS to version 11.

I started my Android experience on a Galaxy S5 phone, which I still own. That phone runs Android 6. I also own two Galaxy tablets, a recently purchased S5e running Android 10, and a much older A model running Android 8.1.0.

On February 1, 2021, I started the Play Music app on my Galaxy Tab S5e. The app displayed a screen stating that Play Music is "no longer available". The same announcement recommended installing the YouTube Music app.

You can see that screen in the **Illustration**.

WHY I WON'T USE THE YOUTUBE MUSIC APP

YouTube is owned by Google. The intent of the YouTube music app is to play music stored "in the cloud". There are three reasons why that cloud storage approach is not ideal for me.

First, that network-intensive method is a classic way for a dedicated fan of music to run into the ceiling on cell network data usage very quickly each month, with financial penalties for exceeding the ceiling, if your carrier contract has such a limit.

Second, despite claims that music stored in the cloud is available wherever you go, there are vast stretches of the US where data service is minimal or is completely absent. Drive through any mountainous area and that becomes obvious very quickly. With 5G, which has a much shorter range than 4G, that problem will be even more acute. The mountains will be the last place carriers build the extra towers necessary to make 5G work on every mile of the interstates. Don't count on that to happen on other mountain highways in the next ten years.

Third, there is a privacy issue. Music stored and accessed in the cloud is an invitation for the cloud storage provider to learn about one's music preferences and monetize that knowledge, such as through endless ads.

WHAT GOOGLE DECIDED TO DO

I went to my desktop computer and googled the status of the Play Music app. I learned that, in 2020, Google announced that the company would no longer support the app as of December 3, 2020.

That end of support, by itself, does not cause the app to stop working. I use the Play Music app daily on my S10 phone. So far, the app still works just fine.

The fact that Google **disabled** the Play Music app on my Tab S5e tablet was quite an unhappy surprise. Even with the music indexing quirks in Play Music, which I wrote about a couple of years back, the Play Music app was reliable and reasonably easy to use.

I surveyed the fate of the Play Music app on my other Android devices. On the S10 phone, running Android 11, the app can still play my music collection stored on the phone. On the S5 phone, running Android 6, the app can still play my music collection stored on the phone. On my Galaxy Tab A, the app acted like the app on the Tab S5e, displaying the no longer available screen. I expect that the end is near for the Play Music app on my current S10 phone and my old S5 phone.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER MUSIC PLAYER APPS

Of course, I went to the Google Play Store and looked for music player apps. That category is a huge, bewildering forest. The Play Store app recommended some alternative searches, including "music player no ads", so I tried that. Ads are another unwelcome use of cellular network data. For each app, I looked at the review rating average, the number of reviews, and the total number of downloads. I also made sure that each was capable of playing music stored on the phone, not in the cloud.

Musicolet has been downloaded 5 million times and has a 4.7 rating average in almost 120,000 reviews. That is a very strong rating average. So I downloaded that app on my Tab 5e.

When I started the Musicolet app and worked through its setup steps, I learned that it has one feature I liked immediately. The app provides the option to specify one or more particular folders on the phone or tablet in which to find sound files. I chose the folder on my micro-SD card where I parked my 1,600+ songs (1,637, according to Musicolet). The advantage is that, unlike Play Music, the app will ignore my voice memos that are stored in a different folder. Play Music app automatically threw in all my voice memos, which are far less entertaining than my music.

Musicolet also offers a feature to play songs in random order, sometimes called Shuffle Play, just like the Play Music app. I use that constantly so that my music sounds like an FM progressive music station in the 1970s. I have other music on my phone as well, from the 1950s through the 2000s.

Another ad-free music player app with just about the same attractive stats is **Pulsar Music Player**. This one claims to support use on car sound systems via Android Auto.

Most sound systems in recent cars already provide Bluetooth capability. If you only want to access phone or tablet music, and you do not have the Android Auto feature in your car, you can play music from your phone on the car stereo via Bluetooth. Android Auto offers other advantages.

Interesting Internet Finds

By Steve Costello
scostello@sefcug.com

Proxy Vs. VPN: When To Use A Proxy Server And When To Use A VPN?
https://www.digitalcitizen.life/when-use-proxy-and-when-use-vpn/
Have you heard about Proxies and VPNs. Do you know the differences, or when you should use which and why? Check out this post to learn more.

How To Configure Your Mouse For Comfort
https://www.makeuseof.com/how-configure-mouse-comfort/
With all the online classes and conferences, more and more people are using their mice for longer periods. If you don't already know how to make your mouse use comfortable, check out this post, and follow the advice.

7 Zoom Tests To Perform Before Your Next Meeting
https://www.online-tech-tips.com/computer-tips/7-zoom-tests-to-perform-before-your-next-meeting/
I have been doing a lot of Zoom meetings, and there have been times things just didn't go right. Now, after reading this I check these things out at least a half-hour before the meeting starts.

I'm Tired of Windows, So What Next?
https://askbobrankin.com/im_tired_of_windows_so_what_next.html
Bob Rankin explains some options for you if you are tired of putting up with Microsoft Windows.

THE BOTTOM LINE

I hope other app publishers do not follow this disappointing Google precedent. When support is ceased, let the user base continue to enjoy the capabilities of the app, at least until an Android OS update breaks the app.

Reprinted from the www.patacs.org, krout75@yahoo.com.

Computer Fun and Games

Compiled by Dorothy Fitch,
Editor, GVR Computer Club, AZ
We all need a little fun in our lives these days. Here are some entertaining things I have discovered.

Zoom Cartoons: There are a lot out there! Most are copyrighted and can't be included directly in this email, but this link will get you to many of them. Click on each cartoon image to enlarge it. Enjoy!

Crossword Puzzle: I have been enjoying this free daily crossword puzzle. It has a nice interface with options for the difficulty level, whether to highlight errors as you type and more. Click here or on the puzzle below.
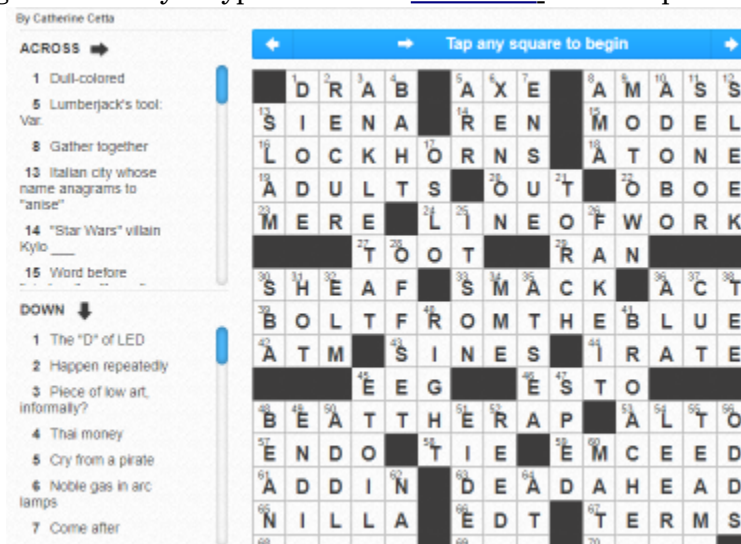
Around the World

20 Years Ago -

A deep technology breakthrough that made India proud (and could have done so much more). "Envisioned as a low-cost alternative to handheld computers in India, the Simputer made a splash in the early 2000s. It was devised in order to bridge the digital divide … it remains an important homegrown development in computer manufacture. It was the brainchild of scientists from the Indian Institute of Science – Vijay Chandru, Ramesh Hariharan, Swami Manohar and V Vinay".

The novelties in design, functionalities, software tools, and developer ecosystem of the Simputer are too numerous to list here but here are some highlights:

o First commercial handheld computer to run the linux kernel

o First Commercial handheld with an Open Hardware license

o Smart card enabled for secure transactions and for personalization

o First commercial handheld to have a full motion sensor – portrait/landscape, games (predates Apple)

o IMLi (Information Markup Language interface) for touchscreen enabled multi-lingual interactions

o Dhvani: Text to speech interface in multiple Indian languages, first in a handheld device

o Alchemy, the first complete App development environment for a mobile (predates Android, IOS)

o The Amida Simputer was e-commerce enabled: online ordering and payment, home-delivery and support.

Product Q & A: I was recently browsing mouse pad offerings on Amazon. In addition to reading reviews, I often peruse the questions people ask about products. You can learn a lot from them. I found these unexpected (and amusing) questions from prospective purchasers about various mouse pads, with their equally entertaining answers. (And no, I did not make these up! They are real.)

Question: Is this mouse pad windows 10 compatible?
Answer: I'm using Windows 3.0 and it works fine. It is also compatible with iOS, most microwaves, and several TV sets.

Question: Is this product gluten-free?
Answer: What does gluten have to do with a mouse pad?

Question: Would this work for using under a desk fan, to keep it from vibrating off the desk?
Answer: It is designed for mouse, but you can have a try.

Question: Does it work for Mac?
Answer: Does your Mac have a mouse? If it does, then it will work. It's a mouse pad.

Question: Hey, is this mouse pad windows 10 compatible?
Answer: Unfortunately no.. You can buy the Compatibility Setup Files from Microsoft for around $444.95. After that, if you want this rubber/fabric mouse pad to work with Win 10, you can pay $39.95/month. I've heard this is a pretty good deal though. You can also put the mouse pad with mouse on the floor below your desk, and simply use it as you would a sewing machine pedal. The mouse pad will then beam up the information to your hard drive and processor. I hope this info helps. (You know it's a piece of cloth right?)

Reprinted from the January 2021 issue, Green Bytes, https://www.ccgvaz.org/, dmfitch@cox.net.

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* * * New Meeting Place * * *

Our usual meeting place is being renovated, but St John's has set aside another space for us to use. Jennifer Kelley (the recreation director) has found us a new room at Chestnut Court, which is the next building over. The room will be straight back through the lobby (where the sun room is in the other building) and it will have a TV with an HDMI hook up so we won't need a projector.

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* * Jokes Stolen from Everywhere * *

www.kaitaia.com

Some of your old favorites have re-released their great hits with new lyrics to accommodate their aging audience. Some examples:

Herman's Hermits "Mrs. Brown You've Got a Lovely Walker"

The Rolling Stones "You Can't Always Pee When You Want"

Credence Clearwater Revival "Bad Prune Rising"

Marvin Gaye "I Heard It Through the Grape Nuts"

The Who "Talkin' 'Bout My Medication"

The Troggs "Bald Thing"

Carly Simon "You're So Varicose Vein"

The Bee Gees "How Can You Mend a Broken Hip"

Roberta Flack "The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face"

Johnny Nash "I Can't See Clearly Now"

The Temptations "Papa Got a Kidney Stone"

ABBA "Denture Queen"

Leo Sayer "You Make Me Feel Like Napping"

Commodores "Once, Twice, Three Trips to the Bathroom"

Procol Harem "A Whiter Shade of Hair"

> **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.

Singapore Police to Deploy Snitch Bots That Search for 'Undesirable Social Behaviors'

By Tom McKay, 9/07/21

Two "Xavier" robots will roam crowds in Toa Payoh Central.

One of the two "Xavier" robots slated to patrol parks in Singapore, looking for smokers, motorcyclists on sidewalks, and people congregating in violation of pandemic rules. If you're wandering around Singapore anytime soon, take some time to wave hi to your friendly neighborhood snitch bot.

Singapore's Home Team Science and Technology Agency (HTX) will be deploying two robots named "Xavier" that the agency says use cameras with a 360-degree field of vision and analytics software to detect "undesirable social behaviors" in real time. First reported by Business Insider, the robots are designed to detect activities such as public smoking, violation of pandemic restrictions (i.e., groups of more than five people), and illegally selling goods on the street. Other behaviors the agency said the robots can snitch on include the use of motorized vehicles or motorcycles on pedestrian walkways and "improperly parked bicycles."

The Xavier robots roll around on a "patrol route pre-configured in advance by public officers," though they can deviate as necessary to avoid slamming into pedestrians or other obstacles. The plan is for the two robots to relay reports of such activity to a central police hub as well as confront violators directly with warning messages, with the first three weeks of deployment starting on Sept. 5 in Toa Payoh Central.

"Once Xavier detects any of the above, it will trigger real-time alerts to the command and control centre, and display the appropriate message (depending on the scenario) to educate the public and deter such

Odds and Ends

Glowing" Antibacterial Bandages Lights the Way for Wound Treatment

byModern Sciences Team

A common method to treat wounds is to apply ointments and other treatments, then covering it with a bandage to protect the wound from outside elements that may promote further infection. This, however, presents a challenge to anyone who wishes to check up on the wound afterwards: in order to view the state of the wound (say, to determine how fast it's healing, or if it's healing at all), you need to open the bandage; but in doing so, you also enable infections to set in, as the wound is now exposed, even if just for a short time.

Scientists from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University in Australia seem to have found a solution to the odd paradox, employing the use of magnesium hydroxide ($Mg(OH)_2$) nanosheets. The nanosheets, in turn, are embedded into the fibers of what would otherwise be a standard cotton bandage. See, $Mg(OH)_2$ is known for its biocompatibility and its antimicrobial properties. This makes it a pretty good candidate for infusion into common bandage material.

What makes the finding stand out, however, is the fact that $Mg(OH)_2$ is also known to exhibit fluorescence under UV light. This is what makes the novel bandage unique: without opening the bandage, you can check for the status of the wound by simply just shining a light through it.

https://modernsciences.org/glowin g-antibacterial-bandages-lights-the-way-for-wound-treatment/.

behaviours," HTX wrote in a press release. If necessary, the agency added, officers on duty at the command center can "activate additional resources to respond to on-ground situations when necessary."
From the website https://gizmodo.com/singapore-police-to-deploy-snitch-bots-that-search-for-1847629866.

On Wednesday, September 15 at 8:02 p.m, **SpaceX's Falcon 9 successfully launched the Inspiration4** mission – the world's first all-civilian human spaceflight to orbit – from historic Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Approximately three days after liftoff, Dragon and the crew of Inspiration4 will splash down at one of several possible landing sites off the Florida coast. The Inspiration4 crew orbits Earth approximately every 90 minutes.

Inspiration4 is commanded by Jared Isaacman, founder and CEO of Shift4 Payments and an accomplished pilot and adventurer. Joining him are Medical Officer Hayley Arceneaux, a physician assistant at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® and pediatric cancer survivor; Mission Specialist Chris Sembroski, an Air Force veteran and aerospace data engineer; and Mission Pilot Dr. Sian Proctor, a geoscientist, entrepreneur, and trained pilot.

Dragon

Dragon is traveling to an apogee of approximately 585 kilometers — flying farther than any human spaceflight since the Hubble missions. Dragon's new cupola observation dome is the largest contiguous space window ever flown. Designed, tested, and qualified for flight in six months, it replaced the mechanism used on Dragon's previous flight to autonomously dock to the International Space Station. The three-layer observation dome was put through an extensive qualification process, including thermal, vibration, structural environments, and life-cycle to verify capability.

From the Spacex website https://www.spacex.com/launches/ .

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

RCSI

The **planning meetings are held online** the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 pm and are open to any member. We use Jitsi, and a link will be emailed to members before our next planning meeting. ANY CLUB MEMBER MAY ATTEND and voice their opinions about club operations.

LINUX SIG

Due to Covid, the SIG has been meeting online. Carl sent out a link last year 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 Schmidtmann, at
unixgeek@faultline.com.

Help's Half Hour

Notes by Jan Rothfuss

Q: A member has Windows 10 on a flash drive and wonders if he will need a license code when he attempts to install.
A: Microsoft is not giving as much credence to license codes lately. Windows 11 is available for those with Windows 10.

Q: His Outlook is filling up with a lot of junk. However the next one from the same address shows up in the inbox again.
A: Mailwasher may be an option. They have a trial period where you can include multiple email addresses to screen. Otherwise the free version will allow only one address (home email).

New Meeting Place
Our Usual Meeting Place is being renovated.
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 SECOND building on the left – **Chestnut Court**.
Our meeting place can change. Please check our website before each meeting. **www.rcsi.org**

APCUG, **Tech for Seniors**, hosted by Ron Brown and Hewie Poplock, 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 one hour 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.