



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

## Our Club

RCSI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) group open for membership to anyone interested in computers and new technology. Established in 1981, 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.***



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**\*\* July and August, summer hiatus - No Meetings \*\***

## Program Meetings

**No admission fee for non-members. Everyone is**

**welcome!** Second Tuesday of every month, except July and 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.**

## In This Issue

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Two if by Land, one if by Air   | Phil Sorrentino |
| Scam Phone Calls Don't Have to Drive You Crazy                                      | Kurt Jefferson  |
| Classic Hardware  | Greg Skalka     |
| How Do I Transfer My System to a Replacement Drive?                                 | Leo Notenboom   |
| How tech devices can make your (and your kids') lives easier                        | Brand Point     |
| Bits and Pieces in the News   | RCSI editor     |
| Japan Is Dropping a Gargantuan Turbine Into The Ocean to Harness 'Limitless' Energy |                 |
| Scientists grew living human skin around a robotic finger                           |                 |
| Club and Regional News  |                 |
| Laser bursts drive fastest-ever logic gates   | U of R          |

## Become a Member

The club would like to have you as a member, and your subscription will help to keep us going. 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.

## Two if by Land, one if by Air

By Phil Sorrentino, Newsletter Contributor  
Sarasota Technology Users Group

Well, that may not quite be the famous quote “One if by land, two if by sea,” that allowed Paul Revere to signal the patriots how the English army was coming. But the idea may be similar. Here it’s a statement of choices, and in this case, the option is how the Internet is connected to your home. Until recently, the only choice was “by land.” (Yes, I know there is DishNet [communications-satellite provided Internet], but that is a reasonably small percentage, and it



“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, [www.jazz901.org](http://www.jazz901.org)  
*Sound Bytes is the longest running computer call-in show in the known universe.*

**We have stopped printing the Monitor newsletter.** Digital copies can be emailed or 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.

**Some Past Presentations:**

The New Space Race, 2021  
Tech of South America  
Autonomous Cars and Robots  
Open Source and Free Software  
Protecting Your Identity  
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  
Cut the Cord, Streaming Services  
Keeping Mobile Devices Secure  
3D Printing, ENABLE project  
Internet Security and Privacy  
Flash Drives-Not Just for Storage  
Features, Mac OS X & Windows

doesn't fit in my metaphor-simile.) There are two land delivery methods in this general area of southwest Florida, cable, and fiber. In the Sun City Center area, Spectrum will provide Internet to your home via a cable-TV type of cable brought right into your home. (Brighthouse was the provider until 2015 when Charter Communications acquired Brighthouse and folded it into Charter Spectrum.) The other land Internet provider is Frontier Communications. Frontier provides the Internet via fiber optic cable brought right to your home. (The actual cable brought into your house may be fiber, but more typically, the fiber signal is converted to a cable-TV signal at the entry point, and a cable-TV type of cable is brought into the house.) Verizon installed all the fiber in the Sun City Center area, and then in 2016 sold that part of their business to Frontier.

So that's the two land choices, now for the air choice. The air choice is 5G wireless to the Home. Until 5G, distribution of the Internet via wireless may not have been considered practical by Internet Service Providers for various reasons. But 5G's frequency spectrum, modulation schemes, and bandwidth appear to make it a practical way to connect homes to the Internet. Keep in mind that this is a way to connect the Internet to the house. Once the home is connected, you don't need a 5G phone to use the Internet; Wi-Fi connects all your devices in the home to the Internet. (A 5G phone is still required if you want to access Internet resources directly using the 5G network.)

Just a brief review:

- 1G - The first generation of wireless systems was voice-oriented, analog cellular,
- 2G – The second generation was voice-oriented digital cellular,
- 3G – The third generation changed the emphasis from voice to data,
- 4G – The fourth generation increased the available bandwidth,
- 5G – The fifth generation continued to improve the available bandwidth and speed.

Most of us use phones that can take advantage of the 3G and 4G networks, though some newer, more expensive phones can use the 5G network. Here are some of the major features of the five generations. For those with technical curiosity, notice the bandwidth improvement; it went from Two Thousand bps to over One Thousand-Million bps.

Advertising for 5G states that 5G Wireless Technology is intended to deliver higher multi-Gbps data speeds, ultra-low latency, more reliability, increased network capacity, and availability, and provide a more consistent user experience for more users.

5G Internet to the Home is currently only available in certain cities. A recent estimate for T-Mobile indicated about 30 million people in about 40 states. So more than likely, all three major Internet companies, Verizon, AT&T, and T-Mobile, will eventually provide 5G Internet to the Home in many geographic areas, even if you are not seeing any advertising for it right now. (The only advertising I've seen so far was an article that indicated that T-

**APCUG**, An International  
Association of Technology and  
Computer User Groups

<https://apcug2.org/>

### Saturday Safaris

Exploring Technology in Depth

**Saturdays:**

12 pm – 2 pm

February 12, May 7, August 27,  
and November 5 (along with the  
annual APCUG meeting)

<https://apcug2.org/saturday-safaris/>

### Tech for Seniors

<https://www.techforsenior.com>

hosted by Ron Brown  
and Hewie Poplock

Every Monday from 9-10 AM PT,  
(12-1 PM ET)

Broadcast with Zoom

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

###

### APCUG Website Help

Windows & Android Tips:

<https://apcug2.org/jerestips/>

Apple Tech Tips:

<https://apcug2.org/50-best-mac-tips-tricks-timesavers/>

Penguin Platform (Linux):

<https://apcug2.org/penguin-platform/>

Chromebook Tips And Tricks:

<https://apcug2.org/chromebook-tips-and-tricks/>

Mobile and Verizon services would be \$50/month with no contract, no equipment charges, no added fees, and no data caps. We'll see.)

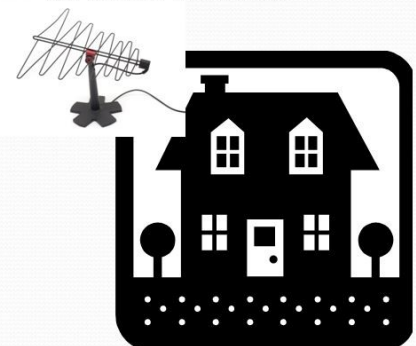
If you Google "5G Internet to the Home," you will find websites that may help you determine if 5G to the Home is available in your area. T-Mobile and Verizon seem to have the most presence if the number of hits on Google is any indication. Verizon currently offers 5G Internet to the home, referred to as "Verizon 5G Home Internet", in selected geographic areas. I tried a Verizon site with my address and concluded it is not available in Sun City Center at this time. However, Verizon offered LTE Home Internet service for \$60/month if I was interested. (LTE stands for Long Term Evolution. It is a term used for a particular type of 4G network that delivers fast mobile Internet service.) I also learned that the T-Mobile offering is called "T-Mobile Home Internet" and that AT&T currently only offers a 4G Home Internet. After trying a few other websites, I concluded that 5G Internet to the home is probably not available from any of the three providers at this time in most places.

"5G Internet to the Home" is also called "Fixed Wireless 5G"; to differentiate it from "5G Mobile," which is the standard wireless service that supports our smartphones. Fixed Wireless refers to the equipment used to convert the 5G signals into an Internet service. Fixed Wireless Internet is created from a fixed antenna connected to a nearby (and in the line of sight) wireless tower. The fixed antenna receives signals from the wireless tower, which it then sends to a router in your home to provide your home with local Wi-Fi access.

5G Antenna Tower



5G Home Antenna



### 5G Internet to the Home

5G Internet to the Home providers advertise that this type of Internet distribution will come with benefits such as higher connection speeds, with a potential to reach 1,000 Mbps, and lower latency. This parameter affects buffering while streaming movies and video chatting. Another benefit cited is that the installation is pretty simple and that, in many cases, it can be installed by the end-user. Additionally, they are projecting higher reliability, lower prices, and no contract or hidden fees. We'll see how all this works out as 5G Internet to the Home becomes available in more and more locations.

Reprinted from the newsletter [www.thestug.org](http://www.thestug.org), [philsorr@yahoo.com](mailto:philsorr@yahoo.com).

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### Planning Meeting

Held on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, \* \* ONLINE \* \*. We will be using [Jitsi Meet](#). ANY CLUB MEMBER MAY ATTEND.

### Got Questions?:

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Linux & some Mac: . . . . .  
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### Monitor Newsletter

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### Club Mailing Address

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## Scam Phone Calls Don't Have to Drive You Crazy

By Kurt Jefferson, Editor  
Central Kentucky Computer Society

Years from now, when future generations look back on this era, they'll probably shake their heads and wonder about all the bothersome phone calls many of us receive and wonder why we put up with this nonsense. While there is no silver bullet, you can block most of these calls by using software designed to block annoying robocalls, telemarketers, and phone scams.

You install the software on your iPhone or Android phone. If you use a landline phone that receives calls using the Internet (called VoIP), many of these same products offer websites where you can tell your Internet provider to block unwanted calls.

The tech site, Mashable, lists seven of what it calls "The best robocall blocking apps and tools for avoiding phone spam." In other words, "Your jig is up, unknown caller!"

Here are Mashable's Top 7 Picks:

- Best Free App: [Hiya](#) – Caller ID & Spam Blocker
- Best Paid App: [Nomorobo](#) Robocall Blocking
- Best For Getting Revenge on Scammers: [RoboKiller](#) – Spam Call Blocker
- Best For Businesses: [YouMail](#) Voicemail and Spam Block
- Best For Landlines: [Call Control Home](#)
- Best For Number Lookups: [Truecaller](#)
- Best For Unmasking Calls: [TrapCall](#) – Reveal No Caller ID

The Mashable writer begins, "If there's one thing people with iPhones and Android phones can agree on, it's this: Robocalls suck. Although, personally speaking, robots call me more than my mother does."

"At present, robocalls are the No. 1 source of consumer complaints to the FCC, making up 60% of all filings. Anyone can run a phone scan nowadays; one Florida man managed to place 96 million robocalls all by himself over three months in 2016 before the government cracked down on his shenanigans," added Mashable.

What I find scary is that in 2020, one in six Americans fell prey to scams, up from one in ten in 2017. The call-blocking company, Truecaller, discovered that each victim reported an average loss of \$244.

Ouch. "Installing a third-party robocall blocking app remains one of the best and most reliable ways to prevent robocallers, telemarketers, and even pesky political campaigns from reaching you on your smartphone. (Be sure to do your due diligence and pore over its privacy policy first, so you know exactly what you're signing up for.)" writes Mashable.

A couple of CKCS members asked me what I use, and I mentioned Nomorobo. I use it on my iPhone and Ooma, the landline phone service at home (that's what CKCS uses at the office.)

Nomorobo got its start in 2012 when the Federal Trade Commission put out a challenge. What became Nomorobo tied for the best overall solution, winning a \$25,000 prize. You can download the smartphone

## Tidbits of probably useless information

### The 10 Most Natively Spoken Languages In The World

[www.babbel.com](http://www.babbel.com)

1. Chinese — 1.3 Billion Native Speakers
2. Spanish — 471 Million
3. English — 370 Million
4. Hindi — 342 Million
5. Arabic — 315 Million
6. Portuguese — 232 Million
7. Bengali — 229 Million
8. Russian — 154 Million
9. Japanese — 126 Million
10. Lahnda (Western Punjabi) — 118 Million Native Speakers

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

Goldfish can see both infrared and ultraviolet light.

There are more than 1.4 billion insects for each human on the planet.

The largest snake that ever lived was the titanoboa. It grew up to 42 feet and weighed over a ton.

The house fly always buzzes in the F key.

Koala fingerprints are so close to humans that they can taint crime scenes.

There are approximately five deaths caused by sharks annually, while horses kill about 20 people a year and cows kill about 22.

[Crocodiles](#) gobble up 1,000 people a year. By spreading malaria, mosquitos kill hundreds of thousands more people than sharks do every year.

app from the various app stores (\$1.99 per month, per device) or register for the landline service (free) from the Nomorobo website. Scroll down, and you'll see Landlines and Mobile displayed at the bottom of the page.

As I type this on a rainy Monday afternoon in late October, Nomorobo is currently blocking more than 4.6 million scam phone calls. I got two scam phone calls this morning while walking in a park near my home. Nomorobo did its job – silencing both calls, so they never bothered me, and one went directly to voicemail trying to sell me an extended car warranty (one of the most pervasive and hated robocalls.)

The Nomorobo app as it appears on my iPhone in late October. If I get a possible scam call that is not in Nomorobo's database, I have the option of sending the phone number through the app to the Nomorobo staff for it to confirm it's bogus and add it to the giant database.

From the <https://ckcs.org/>, [lextown2@gmail.com](mailto:lextown2@gmail.com).

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

President's Corner

### Classic Hardware

by Greg Skalka, President

Under the Computer Hood User Group

Everything that is old wants to be a classic - an outstanding example, something of lasting worth, or having timeless quality. New things must stand the test of time to be considered classics, though classic is somewhat subjective. We can all relate to classic cars, classic literature, and classic clothing. Something must be around for a while to be considered a classic. Can there be such a thing as classic technology?

We typically think of the newest, most modern, and most advanced when we think of technology. Windows 11, 5G, and USB3.2 may be very capable, but they have not been around long enough to prove their worth. While advanced and perhaps even revolutionary for their day, MS-DOS, Compact Discs (CDs), dial-up modems, and serial port interfaces now seem too behind the times to be classic. When we think of classic cars like the Ford Model T, original Volkswagen Beetle, or Pantera, we seem to be able to more easily overlook their lack of modern automotive safety features, lower reliability and comfort, and greater environmental impact as compared to 2021 models. We don't feel the same about our computer and communications technology. Rotary-dial phones, Windows XP, and CRT monitors don't seem as much like classics but rather as ancient and undesirable. Some early computer games are considered classics, but we look down on the inferior capabilities of yesterday's technology for the most part.

Not all new technology is an improvement, from my point of view. For example, the latest version of Microsoft Word has very sophisticated capabilities. Still, when I just want to write a basic article, like this one, I prefer the simplicity of an older version like Word 6, which to me is a classic. I'm too private a person to want all my photos and documents in the cloud, so I sometimes have to pass files to others through exchanged USB Flash drives or even CD or DVD data discs, rather than worry

## Windows & Android Tips

### **A BASIC SMART HOME DOESN'T NEED TO BE COMPLEX OR EXPENSIVE –**

Smart homes are probably the closest we can get to the futuristic dwellings seen in science fiction. The technology powering all of this can be quite complex but putting it all together doesn't necessarily need to be. You can also put a half-decent smart home together without bankrupting yourself. Find out how at: [A Basic Smart Home Doesn't Need To Be Complex or Expensive – Review Geek](#)

### **EASIEST WAYS TO CONNECT YOUR SMARTPHONE TO YOUR TV –**

The line between your various gadgets is blurring by the day. You can connect your tablet to your surveillance system and your smart speaker to your refrigerator. You can see who's at the door from your computer and adjust the thermostat from your phone. Wouldn't it be great to bring the content from your smartphone to your big-screen TV? It's possible. You can livestream video from your phone to your TV, view files and photos and also play games. Virtually anything you can do on your phone can be cast to your TV. Here's how: [Easiest ways to connect your smartphone to your TV \(komando.com\)](#)

### **21 HIDDEN SMARTPHONE SUPERPOWERS–**

An Android phone or iPhone can help you scan documents, get better sleep, alert loved ones of an emergency, and more. Here's how: [21 Hidden Smartphone Superpowers – Consumer Reports](#)

about encrypting files before posting or emailing. However, it is getting more likely that the person I want to send to does not have access to an optical disc drive.

In some cases, though generally more capable, new technology is inferior to older tech in some specific and significant way (at least to me). One example of this is scanning. I have an HP OfficeJet Pro 7740 all-in-one printer (Photo 1) that can print and scan up to 11" x 17" documents. It has a network interface so any computer on my home network can use it. In addition, it has a paper feeder for the scanner that can automatically scan two-sided documents, which I like. I've had it for about five years, and though it has communications problems related to scanning at times, it has overall worked well. It does not scan as well as my older scanner, however.

I still have my prior scanner, an HP ScanJet 5370C (which is probably 20 years old). It has only a USB interface and is still connected to the Windows XP computer I have always used with it. The OfficeJet scans documents much faster than the older ScanJet, but the quality of the older scanner is much better in at least one particular way.

Both scanners can scan a flat document with about the same quality. The ScanJet beats out the new OfficeJet by scanning items that are less than completely flat. To some degree, you can see this in wrinkled documents, but it is very obvious when scanning an object. Why scan an object? Well, I like to keep my product documentation electronically. When I buy something, I scan the box, any paperwork inside, and sometimes the product and accessories to a single pdf file. In this way, I have a record of the item and don't have to keep boxes and physical manuals around. It also helps later to see what came with the product; I will usually lay cables, adapters, and the product's side with the serial number label on the scanner bed and scan it as part of my stored documentation for reference. I have been doing this for years, and I've found it is often very useful.

Unfortunately, I've found the new OfficeJet scanner is very poor at this. If you think of the scanner like a camera, the OfficeJet's depth of field capabilities is very narrow compared to the older ScanJet. The OfficeJet can only focus on something right at the glass plate of the scan bed, while the range of focus for the ScanJet seems to go from the scan bed plane to maybe an inch or more above it. If you lay cables on the ScanJet, you get a scan that looks like a photograph. Everything not directly touching the glass is out of focus and dark with the OfficeJet.

This issue can be seen in the scans of the packaging for a scientific calculator I found in the clearance aisle at Walmart. The store packaging has the calculator sealed in clear plastic to a cardstock backing. To scan the front side of the package, the Walmart clearance label is flat against the scanner glass, but the cardstock is almost an inch away (due to the thickness of the calculator).

When scanned with the old ScanJet, everything is in focus and well lit; the Walmart label, the calculator keys, and the cardstock backing are all very legible.

When the same scan is made on the newer OfficeJet, only the Walmart label is in focus. In addition, the calculator keys and legends are a little fuzzy, and the cardstock backing is so dark and out of focus that it is almost completely unreadable.

## Scam Alerts

### This weird ransomware can only be decrypted by going to the Roblox store

By [Sead Fadilpašić](#)

Want your files back? Buy a Roblox game pass.

If you thought ransomware forcing people to do good deeds was bizarre - wait until you hear about WannaFriendMe. To get the decryptor for this newly discovered [ransomware \(opens in new tab\)](#) strain, victims need to buy a game pass on the Roblox Game Pass store.

Roblox is a gaming platform where users get to build and play games. Game builders can monetize their creations by requiring game passes before playing. These passes can be bought with the platform's native currency, Robux.

In the ransom note sent to the victims, it says they need to buy a specific game pass, costing 1700 Robux, or roughly \$20. After acquiring the game pass, they need to contact a specific email address with their username, and a screenshot to prove the purchase.

Reported on <https://www.techradar.com/news/tis-ransomware-can-only-be-decrypted-by-going-to-the-roblox-store>.

I don't know what it is about the design of these two scanners (both from HP) that gives such a greater depth of field capability to the ScanJet, but I would prefer my new one were as capable in this respect. If all I wanted to do was scan flat paper, the OfficeJet would be the best choice and all I would need. Since I want to occasionally scan non-planar items, I guess I will need to consider keeping the ScanJet around. I could always take a photo of non-planar packages and cables to include with my product documentation files, but it is so much nicer to have everything for a product in one single pdf file. I guess I'd consider my ScanJet 5370C to be classic hardware.

Taken from the [www.uchug.org](http://www.uchug.org), [president@uchug.org](mailto:president@uchug.org).

### How Do I Transfer My System to a Replacement Drive?

by [Leo A. Notenboom](#)

#### Replacing a dead or dying hard drive and moving on.

Transferring data to a replacement drive needn't be difficult. In fact, being prepared for a transfer is a side effect of backing up regularly.

/

My hard drive states that failure is imminent, and I should replace it immediately. My questions are as follows: when I replace my hard drive, will I need to install a new operating system? Is there a way to clone my current hard drive completely, including my operating system? If I am able to clone my entire hard drive, will I need hardware or some device between the old hard drive and the new while I do the transfer? What is the best way to save my existing files if I can't salvage my entire hard drive? Are there software programs that can help me do this?

/

There is indeed software that helps: they're called [backup](#) programs.

While there are many, many ways to do what you want to do, I'm going to review what I think is the most resilient and most appropriate way. It's how I do exactly the same thing.

#### Transferring a system to a replacement drive

- Make an image backup of the existing drive.
- Replace the drive.
- Restore the image backup to the replacement drive.
- Adjust partitions as needed to fully use the replacement drive.

Your entire system — Windows, installed programs, and data — will be ready to use as if nothing had happened.

#### First: BACK UP!

First things first: *start backing up*. Now. Do not wait. That you're asking this question tells me you haven't been backing up. If you *had* been backing up, you would have:

- The knowledge your existing files are there, in your backups, ready for recovery should you need them for any reason.

## Interesting Internet Finds

By Steve Costello

[scostello@sefcug.com](mailto:scostello@sefcug.com)

*Beware QR Code... Articles*

<https://firewallsdontstopdragons.com/beware-qr-code-articles/>

The author of this blog explains that contrary to recent articles warning about malicious QR codes, QR codes are not malicious in and of themselves.

Furthermore, he explains how to make sure QR code scams do not take you in. I think this is a must-read to clear up a lot of confusion.

*A Warning About Downloader Software*

<https://cynmackley.com/2021/09/06/a-warning-about-downloader-software/>

Are you, or have you been, looking for downloader software to download YouTube videos? If so, you need to read this post before doing so.

*Do You Have Bluetooth On Your PC*

<https://www.addictivetips.com/windows-tips/pc-bluetooth-windows-10/>

Bluetooth is helpful to me. I have an older laptop, now running Windows 10, and I want to use Bluetooth to get some files from a tablet. At first, I couldn't find a way to access Bluetooth. Then, I read this post and found I just needed to download a current driver to get it to work. (I used a Bluetooth adapter for an even older Dell with Linux Mint that did not have Bluetooth.)

- The ability to recover, even if your hard drive fails completely without warning.
- A means to transfer your entire system to your new [hard disk](#).

If you read *Ask Leo!* frequently, you may be tired of my constant harping on the miracle that is a well-maintained backup, but I can't stress enough how important it is and how many types of problems it can help you recover from, including the very problem you're describing.

I know this for a fact. Two days before writing the original version of this article, the primary hard drive on my primary machine developed a bad [sector](#) that could not be repaired. Since then, I've used this technique to replace hard disks in many machines.

### Step 1: Make an image backup

In reality, there's a little more to it, of course.

- Get and install backup software, if you haven't already.
- [Get an external hard disk](#) to contain your backups, if you haven't already.
- [Create the "rescue disk" or "emergency disk" for your backup software](#), if you haven't already.

All "if you haven't already" means is if you've been backing up regularly, most of these pieces will already be in place. You'll have backup software, you'll have that external hard drive, and you'll have created that emergency disk in case you ever need it.

Today, you need it.

Using your backup software, [create a full-image backup of your machine](#). You can use your most recent backup image, if you like. I want additional reassurance I won't lose any changes made since then, so I make a complete full-[image backup](#) immediately prior to changing the drive.

### Step 1a: Making an image backup if you can't

If you haven't done this preparation and cannot now install the backup software on your machine, or things aren't running well enough for you to use it, there's a slightly different approach to creating that all-important image backup.

- Install the backup software on another machine.
- Create the rescue media for that software.
- Boot your problematic machine [from that rescue media](#).

For most backup programs, [the rescue media can also be used to create an image backup](#). Do that now.

### Step 2: Install the replacement drive

I'll assume you've already purchased a replacement drive. It should have at least as much capacity as the drive you're replacing, though it's not at all uncommon for it to be larger — sometimes much larger. That's OK.

Turn off your machine, unplug it, and follow the manufacturer's instructions for replacing the failing hard drive.



## Around the World

### Top 10 Biggest Problems In the World Today

[www.thetoptens.com](http://www.thetoptens.com)

We are pretty close to eradicating extreme **poverty**, but it's only because it remains concentrated and increasing in some war-torn African countries and is on the decline in Asia.

**Terrorism** is never appropriate, no matter what your political ideology. Innocent people will always get hurt in the crossfire, or worse killed.

**Climate change** won't kill us all soon, but a few generations from now, our decedents will be cursing the fact that we did nothing.

**Diseases** are a disaster. Even simple bacterial infections will soon become deadly again...we are down to only a handful of antibiotics that still work.

Animals have feelings! Not just humans! Animals feel pain and domestic animals can't even take care of themselves. You know why? Because they need a human to take care of them, they're not wild animals. No **animal** deserves **abuse**.

People even die from **drug abuse**, which is sad.

**Pollution** is basically what caused global warming. That's why we need to save the planet. For everyone who thinks global warming is fake, learn more about pollution.

**Racism** needs to stop now before a major war starts. People should work together and learn the differences of everyone and no one should feel superior. We are humans no matter our culture or color of skin. People are different and it shouldn't be pushed into peoples faces.

### Step 3: Restore the backup image

After you put your machine back together again, [reboot](#) using the emergency/rescue disk you created with your backup software. Now use that software to [restore your backup image to the new hard drive](#).

That's pretty much it. When it's done, you can remove the emergency disk and reboot, and you should be up and running as if nothing had happened... except you'll be running from your nice, healthy replacement hard drive.

### End of Article ###

### How tech devices can make your (and your kids') lives easier

Brand Point

With the demands of work, school, home, and everything else on your family's to-do list, you may wish you had more tools to streamline daily routines and keep kids on track. Fortunately, the latest technology offers easy-to-use, safe, and fun ways to empower kids to take ownership of their routines, from getting ready in the morning to bedtime - and everything in between.

How can you help kids get their homework done, answer their thousands of questions, and provide plenty of educational content and entertainment? Here are two great options that can not only make your life easier but put more control of your child's world into their own hands (and voice).

#### Kids can ask Alexa

Echo Dot Kids is Amazon's smart speaker with Alexa, made just for kids. And while the device is made with your little one in mind, it also comes with easy-to-use parental controls so you can set daily time limits, filter content, and review activity in the Amazon Parent Dashboard. The kid-friendly models come in a tiger or panda print and bring interactive games, homework help, assistance with daily routines, reminders, and more into your kids' control with just their voice.

With features like Bedtime Stories, which allows kids to listen to narrated stories, this device can help make the nighttime routine even easier. When it's time to get some shut eye, you can turn on Sleep Sounds to help them fall asleep faster too. In the morning, kids can even set their own alarm to get their day started and wake up entertained with character alarms from Disney, Nickelodeon, and Cartoon Network.

When it comes to homework, you can help children be independent with homework help on demand and can get time back by using Alexa for reminders to get ready for school or work on assignments. Kids can ask questions ("Alexa, how do you spell ...?" or "How tall is Mount Everest?"), practice learning with Amazon Math, listen to jokes and fun facts, and even call approved friends or family members.

"These devices can make a huge difference in smoothing over family routines," said Catherine Teitelbaum, Head of Amazon Family Trust. "With Alexa helping your kids to take more ownership of their homework independently, they are also learning to be more self-sufficient."

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

**Jerry Seinfeld**

I had a dream last night that a hamburger was eating me.

See, the thing of it is, there's a lot of ugly people out there walking around, but they don't know they're ugly because nobody actually tells them.

Dogs have no money. Isn't that amazing? They're broke their entire lives. But they get through. You know why dogs have no money? No pockets.

I was the best man at a wedding one time, that was pretty good. Pretty good title, I thought, best man. I thought it was a bit much. I thought we would have the groom and a pretty good man. That's more than enough. If I'm the best man, why is she marrying him?

You know you're getting old when you get that one candle on the cake. It's like, "See if you can blow this out."

Just what is the handicapped parking situation at the Special Olympics? Is it still just the two spaces?

Sometimes the road less traveled is less traveled for a reason.

Folks who read the tabloids deserve to be lied to.

Make no mistake why babies are here – they are here to replace us.

I am so busy doing nothing, that the idea of doing anything – which as you know, always leads to something – cuts into the nothing and forces me to drop everything.

I think it's funny to be delicate with subjects that are explosive.

A new feature, Reading Sidekick, can help kids build fluency and foster a love for reading. Simply say, "Alexa, let's read," and Alexa will take turns reading with your child, providing encouragement when they're reading well and offering support when they struggle.

**Show me the entertainment**

Echo Show 5 Kids is an Alexa-enabled smart display designed just for kids. This device gives you all the great features of Echo Dot Kids, but also comes with an interactive display for even more functionality and fun. Built for entertainment, education, and connection, the all-new Echo Show 5 Kids comes in a fun Chameleon design that fits into the coolest of kids' rooms. Kids can easily personalize the home screen with colorful, kid-friendly clock themes or make video calls to pre-approved contacts. Plus, similar to Echo Dot Kids, children can also ask Alexa for homework help and set alarms to wake up to the voice of their favorite character.

Echo Show 5 Kids and Echo Dot Kids include a one-year subscription to Amazon Kids+, giving families access to thousands of ad-free apps, books, games, videos, Audible books, and songs, across compatible devices. With Echo Show 5 Kids, the subscription even provides access to kid-friendly educational content, movies, and shows. Children can have dance parties to their favorite music, learn while having fun with Alexa Skills like Lemonade Stand, Name that Animal, and more. Some of the most popular content across Kids Echo devices from Amazon Kids+ includes: Disney Stories, Animal Workout, Would You Rather for Kids, Amazon Math, Travel Quest, and Freeze Dancers.

And for parents who already have an Echo device in their home, setting up Alexa voice profiles for kids ensures Alexa will always answer in a kid-friendly way. When Alexa hears a child's voice, she'll automatically shift to the kids profile, extending the children's experience and parental controls to any Echo device in the home.

**This new line-up of Echo devices:**

- \* Feature new designs, enhanced audio, and more powerful hardware and experiences to make Alexa even smarter, more engaging, and more helpful
- \* Are built with multiple layers of privacy controls, including a mic/camera off button and a built-in camera shutter
- \* Are Climate Pledge Friendly, built with recycled materials and will support Low Power Mode for energy savings
- \* Includes a 2-year worry-free device guarantee-if it breaks, return it and we'll replace it for free

This article is from

[https://www.brandpointcontent.com/article/38927/how-tech-devices-can-make-your-\(and-your-kids%E2%80%99\)-lives-easier](https://www.brandpointcontent.com/article/38927/how-tech-devices-can-make-your-(and-your-kids%E2%80%99)-lives-easier).

## Odds and Ends

### Cuffless Blood Pressure Monitoring: Interview with Jiang Li, CEO at Vivalink

Blood pressure is a crucial factor in cardiovascular health, but measuring it using conventional pressurized cuff systems in a doctor's clinic is prone to unreliable results. A one-off measurement merely offers a clinician with one snapshot in time, potentially missing an intermittent issue. However, patients can also be prone to "white coat syndrome," where anxiety during such measurements can lead to significantly misleading results.

Continuous measurements are preferable, but pressure cuff-based systems are cumbersome and inconvenient to wear on the move. This has inspired cuffless monitors, but some of these, such as optical systems, are prone to accuracy issues. [Vivalink](#), a medtech company based in California, has created a cuffless blood pressure patch that the company reports is less prone to such issues.



The patch delivers continuous data on heart rate, ECG trace, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, and respiratory rate. The patch is reusable and can be recharged, and does not require calibration.

Read it all at <https://www.medgadget.com/2022/06/cuffless-blood-pressure-monitoring-interview-with-jiang-li-ceo-at-vivalink.html>.

\*\*\*\*\* 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 PDF or web versions of this newsletter.

### Japan Is Dropping a Gargantuan Turbine Into The Ocean to Harness 'Limitless' Energy

[MIKE MCRAE](#), 10 JUNE 2022

Deep beneath the waves there's a source of power quite unlike any other. To tap into it, Japanese engineers have constructed a true leviathan, a beast capable of withstanding the strongest of ocean currents to transform its flow into a virtually limitless supply of electricity.

Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries – now known simply as [IHI Corporation](#) – has been tinkering with the technology for over a decade now, partnering with New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) in 2017 to put their designs to the test.

In February, the project passed a major milestone with the completion of a successful three-and-a-half year field test in the waters off Japan's southwestern coast.

Japan is a country heavily reliant on importing fossil fuels to generate a significant amount of its power. With public [sentiment towards nuclear power](#) souring in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster, Japan is motivated to use its technological prowess to take advantage of renewable energy sources.

IHI estimates that if the energy present in the current could be harnessed, it could feasibly generate around 205 gigawatts of electricity, an amount it claims is in the same ballpark as the country's current power generation.

Read the whole article at <https://www.sciencealert.com/japan-s-dropping-a-kaiju-sized-turbine-into-the-ocean-to-fish-for-limitless-energy>.

### Scientists grew living human skin around a robotic finger

By [Maria Temming](#)

*The advance brings Terminator-like cyborgs a small step closer to reality*

Researchers at the University of Tokyo have built a robotic finger that, much like Arnold Schwarzenegger's titular cyborg assassin, is [covered in living human skin](#). The goal is to someday build robots that look like real people — albeit for more altruistic applications.

Super realistic-looking robots could more seamlessly interact with humans in medical care and service industries, say biohybrid engineer Shoji Takeuchi and his colleagues June 9 in *Matter*. (Whether cyborgs masked in living tissue would be more congenial or creepy is probably in the eye of the beholder.)

To cover the finger in skin, Takeuchi and colleagues submerged the robotic digit in a blend of collagen and human skin cells called dermal

fibroblasts. The mixture settled into a base layer of skin, or dermis, covering the finger. The team then poured a liquid containing human keratinocyte cells onto the finger, which formed an outer skin layer, or epidermis. After two weeks, skin covering the finger measured a few millimeters thick — comparable to the thickness of human skin.

Check it out at <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/robotic-finger-human-skin-self-healing>.

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

## Laser bursts drive fastest-ever logic gates

University of Rochester, May 11, 2022

### **Researchers at Rochester and Erlangen have taken a decisive step toward creating ultrafast computers.**

A long-standing quest for science and technology has been to develop electronics and information processing that operate near the fastest timescales allowed by the laws of nature.

A promising way to achieve this goal involves using laser light to guide the motion of electrons in matter, and then using this control to develop electronic circuit elements—a concept known as lightwave electronics.

Remarkably, lasers currently allow us to generate bursts of electricity on femtosecond timescales—that is, in a millionth of a billionth of a second. Yet our ability to process information in these ultrafast timescales has remained elusive.

Now, researchers at the [University of Rochester](#) and the [Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg](#) (FAU) have made a decisive step in this direction by demonstrating a logic gate—the building block of computation and information processing—that operates at femtosecond timescales. The feat, reported in the journal *Nature*, was accomplished by harnessing and independently controlling, for the first time, the real and virtual charge carriers that compose these ultrafast bursts of electricity.

The researchers’ advances have opened the door to information processing at the petahertz limit, where one quadrillion computational operations can be processed per second. That is almost a million times faster than today’s computers operating with gigahertz clock rates, where 1 petahertz is 1 million gigahertz.

Read the whole article at <https://www.rochester.edu/newscenter/laser-driven-logic-gates-petahertz-ultrafast-computers-522142/>.

## RCSI

**\* \* July and August, summer hiatus - No Meetings \* \***

### **Got Questions?:**

Send an email to either person below and they will get back to you. The questions can be related to the OS (Operating System) or hardware related issues. Please give them time for a response, as they do this service on a volunteer basis. Thank you.

Windows OS: . . . . Arpad Kovacs, [podcomputer@gmail.com](mailto:podcomputer@gmail.com)

Linux & some Mac: Carl Schmidtman, [unixgeek@faultline.com](mailto:unixgeek@faultline.com)

### **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](http://www.rcsi.org)