

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

# News Journal

"Seniors Helping Seniors Learn Technology"

October 2022

Volume 40, Issue 06



LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED AT:

STAYSAFEONLINE.ORG/CYBERSECURITY-AWARENESS-MONTH

**S**ince 2004, the President of the United States and Congress have declared October to be Cybersecurity Awareness Month, helping individuals protect themselves online as threats to technology and confidential data become more commonplace. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the National Cybersecurity Alliance (NCA) lead a collaborative effort between government and industry to raise cybersecurity awareness nationally and internationally.

This year's campaign theme — "See Yourself in Cyber" — demonstrates that while cybersecurity may seem like a complex subject, ultimately, it's really all about people. This Octo-

ber will focus on the "people" part of cybersecurity, providing information and resources to help educate CISA partners and the public, and ensure all individuals and organizations make smart decisions whether on the job, at home or at school – now and in the future. We encourage each of you to engage in this year's efforts by creating your own cyber awareness campaigns and sharing this messaging with your peers.

#### 4 Things You Can Do

- Enable Multi-Factor Authentication
- Use Strong Passwords
- Recognize and Report Phishing
- Update Your Software

"Members Helping Members" (since 1983)

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# Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

c/o Group Ambassador

"J.J." Johnson

#### **News Journal**

The LCACE News Journal is published eleven times annually. Members are encouraged to submit contributions which will be acknowledged in this newsletter. Send articles to <a href="mailto:editoriolicace.org">editoriolicace.org</a> Permission is granted to reproduce any or all parts of this newsletter in other User Group publications, provided that credit is given to LCACE and the individual author (s). Logo designed on an Atari Stacy Laptop in 1989 by Dwight Johnson Jr.

#### **Membership**

LCACE membership is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are \$20.00 per individual/family. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meeting, by request on the club hotline, and are now available on our web site at <a href="http://www.lcace.org">http://www.lcace.org</a>.

#### **Meetings**

LCACE meetings are usually held on Saturdays at the Grayslake Area Public Library, 100 Library Lane, Grayslake, Illinois. The meeting room opens at noon and the formal meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

#### **Newsletter Submissions**

Club members are welcome to submit classified ads, reviews, tips and other articles for publication, to our newsletter editor in Microsoft Word format (.doc). **Publication deadline is the 21th of the month for all ads and articles.** Please do not use tabs or special formatting.

#### **Newsletter Advertising**

Ad rates per issue: Full page - \$25, Half page - \$15, Quarter page - \$10, Business Card - \$5. Discounts are available on advance purchase of multiple issues. Please send camera-ready copy and payment to the club address by the 15th of the month preceding publication. For more information on ad pricing, please call our Hotline. Ads are **FREE** to all paid members.

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#### **Meeting Room Setup**

If you were at the last (Sep.) meeting, you saw an attempt to improve the meeting environment by changing the tables and chairs arrangement. The experiment introduced a few new problems that we didn't have with the former setup, so we will be going back to that former setup, but with changes to the audio system.

#### **Holiday Party**

We seem to have most of our ducks in a row for the up-coming Holiday Party. There are a few issues to discuss, which we will do at our 2 meetings between now and then.

My best to all, Les Larkin

### Enacfire A9 Active Noise Cancelling Wireless Earbuds

By George Harding, Treasurer, Tucson Computer Society

These earbuds include active noise cancellation and smart noise-detect mics that distinguish ambient noises and offset them before they reach the ear. As a result, they reduce outside noise up to 80%.

An extra feature allows users to hear external sounds when desired, without pausing music or taking the earbuds out. This safety feature lets you hear vehicle noise, sirens, etc., when you want to.

The innovative microphones can pick up cell phone call voices with crystal clear audio quality, including deep bass and extra loud sound if desired.



The earbuds are designed to stay secure even during intense exercise yet provide hours of comfortable wear. The stylish charging case provides 32-hour playtime, accompanying you for long-haul flights across the continent. They keep you from all the chaos throughout the way.

The case charges the earbuds but itself is charged with fast USB-C technology.

(Continued on page 4)

Our Presidents 1983-2022



**Membership Chairperson Report** 

#### **HYBRID MEETING:**

In-person— 19 Zoom— 4

#### THANK FOR JOINING

**Harry Ehorn** 

THANK FOR FOR RENEWING

#### THANKS FOR VISITING

(Continued from page 3)

The Bluetooth facility is built-in, and it allows quick and easy pairing with your devices.

### **ENACFIRE A9 active noise canceling wireless earbuds:**

https://enacfire.com/collections/enacfire-wireless-earbuds/products/enacfire-a9-wireless-earbuds

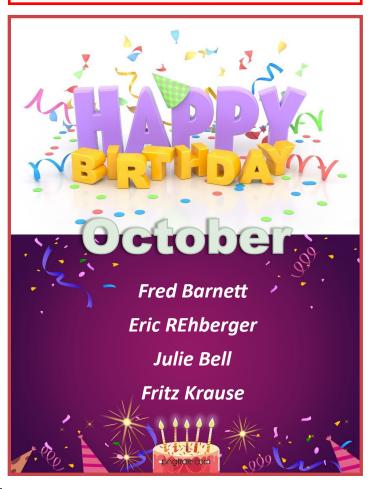
Priced at about \$60



"Smart people learn from everything and everyone, average people from their experiences, stupid people already have all the answers."

-Socrates





# **New Meeting Room Configuration**















**CLICK TO SEND FEEDBACK** 

# Newsletter Articles



This page was reserved for your article



### How Technology Can Help You Age In Place

By 2030, almost a quarter of the American population will be over the age of 65, up from 16% 2020, creating a situation that, Äös going to drive greater demand and eater pressure on the care industry. In addition to a larger workforce and ore financial resources, new technologies also have the potential to help solve the problems created by this seismic demographic shift.

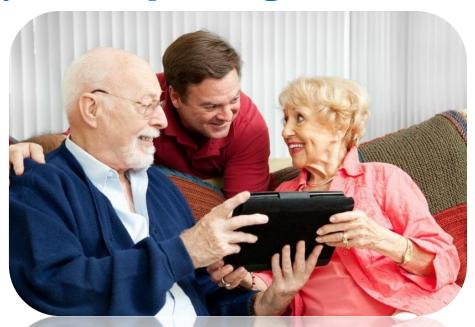
According to experts, Artificial intelligence (A1) and Machine Learning (ML) are already among the key components of new technologies providing improved quality of life for those who want to continue living independently at home.

"While A1 and ML have transformed their industries, adaptation has been slow in the care industry, but we're working to change that," explains that Chia-Lin Simmons, chief executive officer of LogicMark, (NASDAQ:

MK), which manufactures personal emergency response systems (PERS), health communications devices and remote care and activity monitoring technologies to create a Connected Care Platform, and recently incorporated two -way voice communication technology into its medical alert pendant.

To help you live safely and comfort- ably in your home in the years to come, Simmons offers a few strategies for using the newest technology to your vantage:

• PERS, also known as Medical Emergency Response Systems, allow you to call for help in an emergency by pushing a button. Wearable pendants along with water-resistant wall-mounted-devices and mobile solutions, can keep you pro-



tected in every room of your home by helping you instantly connect with loved ones and emergency personnel. Those offered by LogicMark use A1 and ML for pattern recognition and fall detection, for an added layer of security. To learn more, visit logicmark.com.

- Automatic pill dispensers can help ensure you never miss a dose or take your nee s, you may need to look for a solution offering both visual and audio notifications, or one suited for those with limited dexterity.
- Motion-sensing lighting can make nocturnal trips to the bathroom, common in one's golden years, much safer, helping to reduce the risk of dangerous trips and falls. Many lighting options plug directly into outlets, while others are battery-operated and can be to include these fixtures in bedrooms, hallways and bathrooms.

"True independence must be accompanied by peace of mind for you, your family and your caregivers," says

Simmons. "By adopting new technologies, you can help create a virtual safety net, enabling you to stay at home while living in a safe environment and providing piece of mind to your loved ones."

Story Courtesy of StatePoint



### **3G Is Going Away:**

### What It Means For You



imilar to how the ways we listen to music and watch movies have changed, cellular networks are

evolving too. In fact, all major wireless providers plan to shutter their 3G cellular networks this year.

3G networks are the wireless equivalent of being on dial-up internet access years ago. Built in the early 20s, 3G networks are slower, less efficient, and not equipped to support the way we use smartphones today. Americans increasingly depend on their ability to connect to the internet for just about everything and the latest generation of wireless, 5G, is capable of delivering massively faster speeds, enabling and improving everything we rely on our Smartphones to do.

As wireless companies continue to invest in building out their 5G networks, 3G networks will be shut down to make room for this new technology and, ultimately, deliver a vastly superior wireless experience. That's because there's a limited supply of available spectrum — the airwaves that wireless signals use; Wireless companies can take the airwaves once used for 3G and start using them to add more bandwidth to 5G. And more spectrum means better coverage and faster speeds for consumers.

If you have a phone that still relies on 3G, your wireless provider will contact you before their planned shutdown, and you're most likely eligible for a free device upgrade.

Even if your phone isn't from the 3G era, if you aren't yet one of the millions who've upgraded to 5G, the end of 3G means it's time to trade up for a new device that can take full advantage of faster 5G networks, according to industry experts. Keeping affordability and connectivity in mind, wireless providers are always offering deals.

Research 5G coverage and speeds from the providers where you live and like to travel. The wireless industry has changed significantly since the 3G era, so you may be surprised to learn which

network is delivering the fastest and most reliable coverage today. T-Mobile was the first wireless provider in the United States to launch nationwide 5G and, thanks to its merger with Sprint in

2020, it now has the largest, fastest and most reliable 5G network, covering nearly everyone in the country.

It's also a good time to take a look at your phone plan, especially if you're on a limited data plan and want to stream music and videos, or just stop hunting for Wi-Fi.

Along with great coverage, find a plan with built-in ben-

efits, such as free international data roaming, gas savings, and discounts on everyday items to make the most out of your mobile phone. For more information on the future of 5G, visit t-mobile.com/5G.

Connectivity is more essential today than ever, underscoring the importance of the evolution to 5G. From entertainment and gaming to education, the latest wireless technology can connect you to everything that matters, faster than ever before.



#### How to Clip a YouTube Video to Share

Have you ever <u>watched a YouTube video</u> and wanted to share a certain portion of it? Using the handy Clip feature, you can select the specific part of a YouTube video you want and then share it easily.

<<READ MORE>>>

# 12 Google Calendar Tricks You're Probably Not Using

Wondering how to share your Google Calendar? Want to add a new calendar? Here are the tips you need to keep organized

<<READ MORE>>>

#### How to Choose an External Hard Drive

An external hard drive is a simple, easy-to-use device, but there's a huge variety to choose from.

<<READ MORE>>>

## How Drones Help In Everyday Life

Since their first use in the mid- 1 in the form of hot air balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles have been used for security, photography, safety, and many other applications. Today, drones have a significant impact on the way we do business — from warfare reconnaissance and real estate marketing to filmmaking and inventory tracking.

For example, General Motors uses drones to inspect its facilities as a way to safely monitor inventory on its production lots in two to three hours versus what might otherwise take eight to 12 hours with an on-ground, manual inspection. These inspections can also be performed without a complete shutdown of the facilities and without the risk of hoisting personnel in the air or onto the rails.

Additionally, on the military battlefield, drones are playing increasingly pivotal roles in providing crucial real time intelligence and reconnaissance data that allow for tactical advantages. Premission mapping, target surveillance, and battle damage assessment are just some of the benefits provided by drones on the battlefield without additional risk to human soldiers. More industries are catching on to the technology's potential to speed up protocol, offer safer working conditions, and provide fewer disruptions. To meet this rising demand, there are



865,505 drones registered in the United States and counting and 280,418 certified remote pilots, according to the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Given the many critical uses of drone technology, we are working to ensure that drones offer speedier, more versatile, uninterrupted footage that can been acquired using safer, remotely operated technology," says Jeff

Thompson, CEO of Red Cat Holdings, a leading provider of dronebased products, services and solutions. Thompson identifies one of the latest innovations in drone technology as the ability to pilot a drone from virtually anywhere in the world using only an internet connection via a mobile phone in the vicinity of the drone. There are significant efficiencies, ranging from reduced personnel and drastically reduced inspection time, which arise from the ability to inspect infrastructure, equipment, structures, land areas, and job sites using only a drone and a pilot that are hundreds or even thousands of miles apart.

Another innovation? The possibility of operating four drones on a single controller to provide actionable footage immediately. Red at Holdings' four-drone "swarm" marks the first instance of a fully operational multidrone system coming to market. Red Cat's 4-Ship product allows control of up to four of Red Cat subsidiary Teal's Golden Eagle units, and an additional linked controller facilitates the handoff of control from one pilot to another.

This new product offering potentially provides continuous 360-degree surveillance of a target facilitated by a single pilot in control of up to four drones. To learn more or preorder, visit redcatholdings.com.

From municipal traffic monitoring to personal recreational use, drones are changing and improving lives. And, thanks to advancements in their design, they are becoming better, faster and more useful tools across a growing number of an applications and industries.

## **An Internet Safety Guide for Seniors**

"The Internet can be a scary place, especially if you're old enough to be able to remember dialing a rotary telephone!..." begins the website from Safety Detectives.

But, in reality, age doesn't matter. Anyone using the Internet is a target.



Still, those of us who are 60 and older are prime targets of cybercrimes.

(Cybercrimes are those committed over the Internet using any device and means such as email, website, or social media apps such as Facebook or Instagram.)

#### **Stats**

Think about this for a moment. In 2020, Americans 60 and older lost an estimated \$1 billion due to cybercrimes. (Source: The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, IC3.)

That was a 30% increase over the prior year. Yikes!

While all of this can be quite nerve-racking, you don't need to bite your nails or bash your head against the wall (although sometimes that's a tempting thought.)

#### **Protect Yourself**

Safety Detectives says despite the threats, "The vast majority of cyber attacks can be easily prevented with the proper tools, some basic education, and plain old common sense."

The Safety Detective's website provides an excellent breakdown of common online threats facing folks who are 60 and older.

These include:

Viruses & Malware

- Phishing
- Data breaches/password theft
- Social media scams
- Banking fraud
- Privacy violations

#### **Mobile**

If you own an iPhone, iPad, or Android phone, scroll down and check out the How to Stay Safe on Your Smartphone & Tablet section.

#### **VPNs**

VPNs (virtual private networks) will protect you when using public Wi-Fi networks. VPNs are apps you can pay for and then install.

Many are offered through the different app stores (Mac App Store, App Store, Google Play, etc.) or from the software developer's website.

As the website notes, VPNs can flag unsafe public networks and protect your privacy by sending your Internet connection into an encrypted tunnel while on public Wi-Fi. Safety Detectives tested 52 separate VPNs and selected what it considers the best of the lot. Here are what others say:

C|net: Best VPN Service of 2021

Tom's Guide: The Best VPN Service

PCmag.com: The Best VPN Services for 2021

#### **Password Managers**

Using a solid password manager keeps you safe and can make your life easier. A good password manager can auto-fill your login and password on many websites, so you no longer have to type in that information manually. In addition, you no longer have to keep that information in a notebook or on Post–It® notes.

IPCmag.com: Best Password Managers for 2021

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

- Macworld UK: Best Password Managers For Mac
- Tom's Guide: The Best Password Managers in 2021
- Check out The (2021).

Curtsey of Kurt Jefferson, Editor, Central Computer Society



# Hackers, Thieves, and Creeps

The Bad Guys Are Working Hard to Get Your Money

If Cher ever decides to rework her major 1971 hit single, *Gypsys*, *Tramps*, *and Thieves*, she may want to rename it, *Hackers*, *Thieves*, *and Creeps* to reflect today's ongoing

Internet security battles.

Hackers are infiltrating email accounts and tricking folks into paying their hard-earned money for all kinds of bogus ventures.

A few examples of recent emails and Internet threats:

You owe \$280 now to update that anti-virus software package (that you never even purchased.)

We've taken control of your Windows 10 PC. (You'll get it back only after you pay our ransom demands.)

Hey, click on this email link, and it will take you to a bogus website that looks real, seems real, and (is bogus as a Kentucky snowfall in August.)

You're using Safari on a Mac, and a box pops up that reads, "Alert! Suspicious Activity Might Have Been Detected. Major Security Issue. To fix it, please call Support for Apple +1 888-476-\*\*\*\*(Toll-



Free) immediately!" (Pop-ups such as this one are not legitimate. Apple doesn't notify anyone of a "major security issue" in this manner. *Bogus to the max*.)

When it comes to security breaches, "Unfortunately, most people do not understand the gravity of the problem until it personally affects them through identity theft or other malicious activity. Unsurprisingly, however, the rate of identity-related crime is exploding, and a recent study claims that there is a new victim of identity theft every 2 seconds in the United States alone," writes the security website, selfkey.org.

The Internet Theft Resource Center keeps track of

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

the attempts to dig deep into your wallet. Unfortunately, things are not looking up. Reported data breaches grew by 17% from the start of 2021 to September of this year over the number of breaches reported in all of 2020. Yikes.

Security breaches (the ones we hear about) are now so pervasive that we can all view giant lists on the Web detailing the gory details. For example, Upguard lists The 59 Biggest Data Breaches. The fact that dozens of well-known companies appear on this list (Yahoo!, Facebook, T- Mobile, Uber, Home Depot, Zoom) tells us that we're no longer in Kansas (so to speak.)

If you want to see even more names, take a deep breath and check out the selfkey.org list, which claims to show All Data Breaches in 2019-2021, An Alarming Timeline (These are breaches that have been made public.)

There's even a black-market invitation-only online shop where the bad guys go to buy login credentials, fingerprints to open phones and iPads, and stolen cookies.

In 2017, CBS News reported that "imposters, from fake IRS agents to faux tech support employees, have officially overtaken identity thieves to top the list of consumer fraud complaints…"

Okay. What about solutions? The Federal Trade Commission offers several tips:

#### Secure Your Internet Devices at Home.

This includes your Wi-Fi router, PCs, Macs, Linux machines, iPads, smartphones, smartwatches, smart speakers (Hello, Alexa), home cameras, smart doorbells, and every other device connected to the Internet.

Learn When Your Voice Assistant Is Listening. Alexa, Google Assistant, Siri, Cortana might be listening when you're unaware. The FTC urges you to lock down your login, check your settings, and be aware of what's connected to your voice assistant.

Secure Your Router. As we mentioned ear-

lier in this newsletter, you need to update your router's settings periodically. As the FTC writes, "Think of your router as home base for all your devices. The more secure your router, the more secure your connected devices will be."

Use a VPN. We've talked about this before at a CKCS Tech Night. Find a good, reliable, trustworthy virtual private network and use it on all your Internet-connected devices. A VPN is an app that you install. It sends your Internet signal into a tunnel so others cannot access your data. IPVanish writes, "A VPN Helps You Take Back Your Privacy and Protect You From Hackers."

Avoid free VPNs. In this life, you get what you pay for. So, make online security a priority.

Finally, check out: The Ultimate Internet Security Guide For Seniors (2021). Even if you've used the Internet since the '90s, I promise you there is at least one tip on this website to benefit you.

**Stay safe, Stay secure**, Stay informed. Attend your computer club to learn all you can about Internet security.

Curtesy of Kurt Jefferson, Editor, Central Kentucky Computer Society



**CLICK IMAGE TO ENTER SITE** 

# Wyze Air Purifier

#### A luxury air purifier without the luxury price

By Jasmine Blue D'Katz

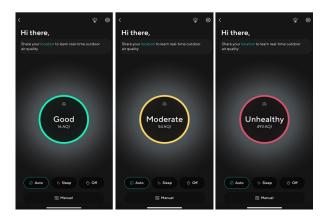


Over the past couple of years Wyze has become a predominant player in the electronic world and has become a tech company that aims to make advanced technology more accessible to everyone. Wyze has a smart home technology company it sells everything from smart home cameras and lighting to smart scales and robot vacuums. the big advantage is that most of their products relatively affordable.

As you may know, I've been following Tech for Seniors for a few years, and the breakthrough tech gadget last year was their robotic vacuum. Their security cameras are also a big hit for Wyze last year along new Pan Cam and their reasonably priced security monitoring service.

I jumped on the bandwagon and purchased a couple of the wise lights which were easy install and programmed by Alexa. and then for some reason I purchased the Wye car which was somewhat of a disappointment to setup and operate, but then again you can't expect everything to be perfect.

A few months ago, Wyze announced a new affordable air purifier that used a 360—degree HEPA filters to rid the air of dangerous pollutants and featured Wi-Fi connect ability for app and voice control. I quickly learn that if you wish to purchase something from Wyze you should jump on the deal right away, because two days later the \$129.00 deal was SOLD OUT. I put myself on the waiting list and two



months later I able to get one at a slight increase in cost of \$169.00.

The setup only took me a couple of minutes and connect to my Wyze mobile app since I use a few other Wyze smart devices, including several Bulbs, and Pan Cam so I was very family with the app.

The purifier has built in fans that measure the density of PM 2.5 (particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micros in size. I'm not sure how small it is but there's a lot to keep the air clean I'm happy. It does not come with a remote, but I can control it from my phone with my voice. this basically allows me to turn it on and off and increase or decrease the fan speed. These controls are also on the top of the unit.



After reading reports of other purifiers costing a range of \$500, the wife is a great deal for the price. The purifier office a great purification performance. Although I'm not sure what all the insights OUTDOOR POLLUTANTS means just as long as I have GOOD clean air inside.

Look forward to seeing my review of the wise Pan Cam, another remarkable smart home device by Wyze.

## **Keep Computer Aches Away**

These tips can help you stay pain-free while using your devices

hether you are working at a computer desk, playing a game on your phone or tablet, or watching TV, it is important to make sure you've positioning your

body properly. Otherwise, you are bound to feel uncomfortable. Of course, there is no one perfect posture for every person, so experiment with different positions to find those that feel best for you.



#### **SET UP YOUR SCREEN PROPERLY**

It is best to place your computer monitor about arm's length away from you. If you must lean forward in order to read the computer screen, try updating the font size or text and applications. As for monitor height the top of the screen should be even with your eye level or slightly lower if you use bifocals, you may want to further lower the screen.

#### **USE THE BEST TYPING POSE**

When typing, your elbows should be comfortable by the side and your risk in a natural position-not flexed up or bent down or angled to either side. A split keyboard can help.

#### **SCOOT BACK IN YOUR CHAIR**

Back it is ideal for you to be able to lean against your desk chair is back, but with a bit of a recline so that the chair will help support your back. Also, make sure there is a gap of an inch or two between the front edge of the chair and the back of your knees. If your chair seat is too long for you to set against the backrest while maintaining that gap, try layering towels over the back rest.

#### **CHECK YOUR SEAT HEIGHT**

Now sitting at your desk your chair height should allow your feet to be flat and firmly on the floor. this will minimize any pressure on the back your thighs from chairs seat. If your legs dangle at all try using a foot rest to support your feet. You do not need a fancy one truth is even a fully stuffed duffle bag will suffice.

#### PROP UP YOUR DEVICES

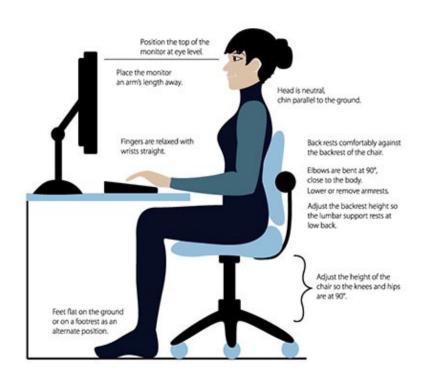
To prevent yourself from tilting your neck down or scrunching up your elbows consider a table holder, which works like a cookbook stand.

#### PLACE YOUR TV FOR COMFORT

You want to be able to watch with a mostly natural neck position. For instance, avoid placing the TV where you have to keep your head turned to the side or - unless you have a recliner that supports the weight of your head - mounting g it so high on your wall that you

(Continued on page 15)

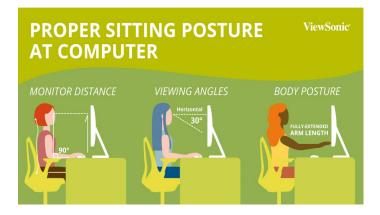
#### ELEMENTAL ERGONOMICS



have to bend back your neck to watch.

#### **CUSHION YOUR BINGE WATCH**

Make use of cushions and pillows to help support the weight of your head without kinking your neck.



#### VARY YOUR PHONE GRIP

A small muscle that controls your hand and fingers can tire easily. So, when you are holding your smartphone, change up your grip frequently. Consider a pop out grip product that makes the phone less taxing to hold. Try not to rely only on your thumb for typing and texting. Another option: instead of typing, take advantage of speaking to text capability.

#### **TAKE STRETCH BREAKS**

<u>Even</u>-if you are in a comfortable position, it is best to avoid holding it for long periods of time. Try getting up for just a few minutes or two-walk around stretch, shake yourself out every half hour or so.

## Fitbit Sense 2

#### **Advance Health & Fitness Smartwatch**

By Jasmine Blue D' Katz

I have been a fan of Fitbit for several years and have lost one of the little trackers in my litter box, but my staff dug it out. I have upgraded from the small fitness trackers to the smartwatch and now I have my paws on the new Fitbit Sense 2



The Fitbit Sense helps me live healthier and feel my best when I take steps to improve my purring as I sleep and stress. The new Fitbit Sense 2 is the most advanced health and fitness smartwatch I have worn, even though Apple may have more feature, but not what I need.



The Sense 2 is 10% thinner and 15% lighter than its predecessor while offering the same 6-day battery life. Display is also bright and colorful, and the screen feels very zippy.

**SCAN ME** 



#### Text Extractor & Screen Ruler

Two new power toys Text Extractor end Screen Ruler. Two new additions to power toys screen ruler a quick and easy way to measure pixels on your screen and Text Extractor which is an easy way to extract text from anywhere on the screen. Microsoft power toys is a set of freeware system utilities designed for power users to tune and streamline their windows experience for greater productivity.

<< WATCH VIDEO>>>

**Windows Power Toys: A Cheat sheet** 

### Tile's Anti-AirTags Are a Safer Way to Track Your

#### **Items**

Tile's latest trackers is the opposite of it traditional devices and AirTags.

By Jake Peterson, LCAUG.org

Apple's AirTags haven't enjoyed the positive press the company likely hoped for. While the tiny devices are great for keeping tabs on the things in your life that often go missing (minus your kids), they've also sparked controversy, since stalkers have used them to track people. Not cool. But AirTags aren't the

only tracking devices on the market. They follow in the footsteps of Tile, a company which seems to be trying something a little different in the tracking business.

Tile is no stranger to making tracking devices. The company, of course, pioneered its Tile trackers years before Apple stepped into the ring. Unlike AirTags, which are all the same, Tile makes trackers in different shapes, sizes, and styles, to fit on keychains, inside wallets, and wherever else you can think to tag your items. Tile's devices also work exactly like AirTags, only inside Tile's ecosystem. Just as AirTags communicate with Apple devices in the Find My network to update their location, Tile trackers communicate with phones running the Tile app.

Tile likely didn't receive the same level of media attention or criticism since it works on a much smaller scale. With Tile, you have no idea whether someone

has the app or not. With AirTags, anyone with an iPhone becomes a homing beacon. Still, Tile faces the same potential privacy issues as AirTags. Perhaps that's why the company is offering a stripped down,



simple version of its product: QR code stickers.

Tile calls them "Lost and Found Labels," but, for all intents and purposes, they're QR code stickers. Labels are very simple: You stick one on a product you'd like to

keep tabs on, then activate it with the Tile app. Once you do, you're able to specify how you'd like to be contacted should someone stumble upon your lost item, whether that's your email address or phone number.

Unlike Tile trackers, they don't need to have the Tile app to connect with you: All a good samaritan has to do is scan the QR code the same way they would, say, a restaurant menu, and they'll have access to your chosen means of contact.

The other benefit here over traditional trackers is the lack of battery. That might be obvious, since they're stickers, but it means you don't need to worry about replacing the battery on your tracker after a year, or replacing the whole thing altogether. They're even dishwasher safe, so you don't have to worry about your tumbler losing its sticker after one wash cycle.

Sure, you lose out on the convenience

of passive tracking, since Labels won't be able to automatically communicate with passing devices. But Labels might work almost as well. We hu-



(Continued on page 17)

mans are curious beings. We see a label, we scan that label. Plus, it doesn't hurt that each Label is printed with four "Scan if found" messages, for when a less-curious person walks by your lost item.

Tile sells its Lost and Found Labels in an odd way, at least for the time being. You need to buy three sheets of five Labels at once, totaling 15 QR code stickers. That brings you to \$14.99, or, effectively, \$1 a tag. I'm not sure why you aren't able to buy individual sheets, but for now, this is how it's done.



Your Microsoft Account No Longer Requires a Password ... Wait, What?

Microsoft has spent the last few years edging toward a passwordless future. And now, the company is allowing users to remove passwords from their Microsoft account in favor of Windows Hello, the Microsoft Authenticator app, SMS sign-in, and other forms of authentication. It's an odd move, but it comes with a few major benefits.

Review Geek has the info and procedure here. https://bityl.co/8iVo

### The 3 Best Ways to Scan and Digitize Old Photos

What is the best way to digitize photos? Here are the various options available; find out which one is best for your needs! Do you want to digitize photos? You can easily back up and preserve old photos by turning them into digital copies with many different methods. What is the best way to digitize photos? It depends on how many you have, your budget, what you intend to do with the photos, and how much free time you're willing to expend.

Make Use Of has all the details here. <a href="https://bityl.co/8iXQ">https://bityl.co/8iXQ</a>

How to Use Your Phone as a Wireless Webcam (iPhone & Android)

You're about to start a meeting and you need a webcam only to find that you do not have one handy. As it turns out, the camera on your Android or iPhone device can work as a wireless webcam; all you need is the right software and perhaps a few accessories. Using your phone as a wireless webcam allows for flexibility of camera placement compared to built-in laptop cameras.

Help Desk Geek has all the info here. <a href="https://bityl.co/8idt">https://bityl.co/8idt</a>

Why Long-Pressing the Power Button Could Damage Your System

If you regularly power off your PCs, tablets, laptops, or game consoles by holding down the power button until it shuts off, you should think twice. Here's why it might damage your machine and what you should do instead.

How-to Geek has the info here. https://bityl.co/8WHE

#### Microsoft 356 Fundamental Guide

More than one million companies worldwide rely on Microsoft 365 to help them get stuff done, and now you can master everything it has to offer. This Microsoft 365 Fundamentals Guide will teach you how to use Microsoft's most popular apps in a way that harnesses collaboration and boosts productivity for even greater results





# **FREE Technology Classes!**

### Live Online Classes for Seniors

If you're a senior aged 60 and older, these live online classes are designed just for you! Learn about Finance, Wellness, Fitness, Computers and Technology, and so much more. You'll learn so much, and also find a real community of fellow life-long learners.

Launched in 2004 as Older Adults Technology Service (OATS) from AARP with a mission to help seniors learn and use technology so they could live a better life in the digital age. Shortly thereafter the word spread and they found themselves teaching technology classes for seniors throughout. They are now delivering more than 10,000 class sessions at over 70 partners site with 30 new computer labs for their nonprofit partners.

Senior Planet is about much more than the latest gadgets, apps and websites. They are a service organization

specializing in the needs of older adults. Their organization proposes to enable all older adults and people of all ages to come together and find ways to learn, work, create, exercise, and thrive in the days of the digital age.

Senior planet offers free weekly technology courses that help seniors learn computer basics and developed life enhancing computer skills did your photography, social media, online job searches, and even how to make a website.

There is always a lot going on in the Senior Planet universe. Get their newsletter and make sure you never miss things.

Sign Up for Newsletters



I struggle to use my iPhone to take photos, but it seems to be the camera of choice for the new generations. Although, I'm seen some beautiful phone using the iPhone, and it's not as hard as you think.

Even though I carry my iPhone which has the ability to take professional-quality cameras these day, not all of us know how to take professional-quality photos.

I'm surprised that photos have been entered into my

camera club competition, and some have won awards.

Most iPhones are just used to express yourself on socialmedia. But, there is lots more to learn to make your photos even better. These tips will make you enjoy experimenting with more features available for your iPhone.

<<READ MORE>>

# Adiós, Dashlane. Hello Keeper!

#### **Dashlane No Longer Supports Desktop App**

by Kurt Jefferson, Editor, CKCS Newsletter



After using Dashlane for many years, I stopped using the popular password manager. Why? The company decided to no longer support its desktop app on either Mac or Windows.

Let me be clear.

I wish Dashlane well. But because Dashlane was one of the most expensive, secure, well–designed password managers, I would expect the company to continue providing both a desktop app that sits on the Dock of my Mac along with a web extension for Safari, Firefox, Brave, Chrome, and other popular browsers.

Dashlane developers have decided to only provide a web browser extension on Mac and Windows machines.

This means there will no longer be any updates for the desktop app. Password manager apps are one of the most important apps on your computer – and they need to be updated to keep your data secure.

I rely on both tools – a desktop app that I can open at any time by simply clicking on the Dock icon and a browser extension I can use when using Firefox or Safari (my two most—used browsers.) A January 2021 Dashlane blog announced the news: "Today, we're sharing an update that we plan to discontinue support for the Mac and Windows apps. We estimate we'll be sunsetting the app at the end of 2021, and in the meantime, you can continue to use the desktop apps; however, we'll no longer be updating their design, features, or functionality."

Why the change? Dashlane writes in its blog, "We made this decision because we believe it's the highest quality and most secure experience we can deliver to our customers, putting us closer in line with our principles. In addition to details in this post about this new web experience, we'll provide frequent updates between now and when we stop supporting the desktop apps—so there'll be no surprises."

Surprises? Dashlane might be surprised to discover that many long—time users may well abandon ship.

It seems to be a strange time for a major password manager developer to alienate its user base. But, with the Delta variant and other strains of Covid still raging in Kentucky, the U.S., and the world, a supply chain that is broken beyond belief, and entire industries pleading for workers to apply for jobs, is now the right time to kill a major part of your software package?

Anyway, since I had used other leading password managers, including LastPass and1Password, I opted for another top—tier product: Keeper.



In its 2021 review, PCMag.com rates Keeper "Outstanding." (The Only one of the bunch to receive the outstanding rating.)

Dashlane, LastPass, Bitwarden, LogMeOnce, and Password Boss all received the "Excellent" rating.

PCMag rates 1Password, NordPass, RoboForm, Sticky Password, McAfee True Key, and Zoho "Good."

(Continued on page 20)



### Family Organizer

While attending **MSCIG** (Minnesota Senior Computer interest Group), Larry Everett gave a presentation on COZI Family Organizer.



**Cozi** is a FREE website and mobile app intended to help families stay organized. Its features include allowing multiple family members to manage schedules with one account, as well as organize and update shopping and to-do lists.

Best of all, everything works cross-platform: Cozi runs on iPhone, Android and iPods Touch

Cozi Family Organizer is the surprisingly simple way to manage everyday family life. With a shared calendar, reminder, grocery list and more. Cozi is a 3-time **Mom's**Choice Award Winner and the *Today Show* "must-have app" for a better life. This is a fantastic app for busy families

Click READ MORE link to view Larry's presentation.



PCMag writes, "Keeper Password Manager & Digital Vault delivers an excellent experience across a ton of platforms and browsers. It also offers top-notch features such as robust two-factor authentication support, good sharing capabilities, and full password histories. As a result, Keeper is an Editors' Choice password manager."



"Everything these days needs a password.

I think I pulled a muscle in my brain."

It adds, "Keeper offers apps for Windows, macOS, Android, iOS, Kindle, Windows Phone, and Linux, as well as browser extensions for Chrome, Edge, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Opera, and Safari. Keeper also maintains a Microsoft Store version."



As soon as I began using Keeper, I felt right at home. It works well. If I want to check a password, look up a secure note, or retrieve a credit card number, I can easily open the Mac app on my

Dock without opening a web browser. Isn't that how password managers should work?

If your password is your name, you deserve to be hacked.



### VIDEO Library

Digital Video Editing Fundamentals Plus and

How to shoot 4K resolution video with your smartphone or tablet

with John Krout

February 12, 2022



2:25:25

#### **Celebrating World Backup Day**

March 30, 2022

Do I really need to back up? – Judy Taylour Backups in a Busy World – Mark Schulman OneDrive – Bill James Veeam Agent – Don Arrowsmith





2:45:42

#### **Touring the Web**

with





June 8, 2022

1:52:58

#### **Learning Linux**

Networking with Orv Beach, John Kennedy, & Dave Melton



July 20, 2022

2:21:20

#### **CLICK ON VIDEOS TO VIEW**



DOES HIBERNATING MY PC SAVE MORE ENER-GY THAN SLEEP? – Windows has two main options for shutting down your PC without really shutting it down—"Sleep" and "Hibernate." There are some key differences between these two modes, but which one actually uses the least electricity? Let's find out – Does Hibernating My PC Save More Energy Than Sleep? (howtogeek.com)

**5 WAYS TO TRANSFER FILES FROM ONE COM- PUTER TO ANOTHER** – Need to transfer files from one PC to another? This article shows how to do that quickly and easily, using both hardware and software. <u>5 Ways to Transfer Files From One Computer to Another (makeuseof.com)</u>

#### HOW TO START YOUR ANDROID PHONE IN

SAFE MODE – Safe mode has been a staple for troubleshooting system problems in computing devices for decades. Unsurprisingly, it comes in handy when your Android device is acting up as well. Booting your Android phone in safe mode disables third-party apps from running. Safe Mode helps you diagnose any issues with your Android operating system, helping you pinpoint the source of the problem. How to Start Your Android Phone in Safe Mode (helpdeskgeek.com)

WHAT TO DO IF GMAIL IS NOT WORKING? 11
QUICK FIXES – This article covers troubleshooting
fixes for several Gmail issues on mobile devices
(Android and iOS) and desktop computers. What to
Do If Gmail Is Not Working? 11 Quick Fixes (online-tech-tips.com)

# Simplify your life with these smartphone apps

Visit *play.google.com* or open your iTunes application and search within the App Store to download these.

How it works
Turns your screen into a flashlight
Provides maps and directions using GPS
Lets you send texts and emails without typing
Finds cheap fuel in your area
Allows video chats with friends and family
Organizes flights, hotel reservations, and more
Helps hang pictures straight
Lets you create and follow a diet plan
Compares prices by scanning bar codes while you shop
Keeps up with local weather
Identifies your pills and finds lowest drug prices
Computes your tip and splits the bill among friends



# Members Helping Members

Just think you could have submitted a paragraph or two that would help your fellow Members







Windows 11 is Finally
Giving You Reasons to
Upgrade

The software update adds compelling features like File Explorer tabs, live capture throughout, and an improved native video editor.

<< READ MORE>>





**8 Great Places to Find Articles Worth Reading on the Web.** By Dan Price, Updated Sep 06, 2022, MUO, The Internet is arguably the best news morgue on the planet right now. And apart from that great collection of old articles, thousands of new ones are added every day. Read More » <a href="https://tinyurl.com/mrysrpra">https://tinyurl.com/mrysrpra</a>

There's Actually a Better Place to Put Your Router to Improve Home Wi-Fi Speeds By Ry Crist and Taylor Martin, Sept. 16, 2022, CNET. Want better Wi-Fi? Follow these five tips for finding the best location for your router. Read More » <a href="https://tinyurl.com/e6cwdrax">https://tinyurl.com/e6cwdrax</a>

Has Your Facebook Been Hacked? How to Tell (And Fix It) By Dan Price, Updated Sep 09, 2022. Learn how to tell if your Facebook account was hacked, what to do if it was, and how to prevent being hacked. Read More » https://tinyurl.com/3afy3yx4

PSA: You Might Be Eligible for a Free Smart Thermostat. By Jason Fitzpatrick, About How-To Geek, Aug 17, 2022. The cost of a smart thermostat certainly weighs into the decision to get one. But in many areas, power companies will give you one for a steep discount or even for free. Here's what you need to know. Read More » https://tinyurl.com/yc5b2ka2



## **Anker USB Travel Power Strip 321**

#### PowerPort Cube

By Jasmine Blue D'Katz



The Amazon guy brought me a new box to explore, unfortunately, this box was too small for me to crawl into, but it contained something that looked like a new ball with a 5-foot-long tail that could play with, but I was unable to claw or bit it because it was plastic and my staff had other plans for it.

My staff have been a big fans of Anker products and have a few of the power banks and cable chargers and cables in their arsenal and decided to get the Anker USB Travel Power Strip to add to my travel accessories. The cube is less than 2 ½ cubic inches for maximum space saving and easily fix into my travel case.

The cube design of the PowerPort Cube gives me three sides of 3-prong AC outlets and one side or 3 USB ports. The PowerlQ-enabled USB ports can charge virtually my smartphone and table, but the lack of Quick Charge and Power Delivery technology means my devices charges at a slower speed.

The generous spacing of the AC outlets allow me to connect both small and large plugs alike. The issue of one plug blocking an adjacent outlet is virtually non-existent on the charger.

When I connected two of my tablets and my iPhone into the USB port the PowerPort Cube was able to distribute up to 3.6 amps between the three ports.

The three USB port can be powered on and off with the button located above them This switch controls all 3 USB ports at the same time. A soft blue LED glows when the USB ports are on, but it's not very bright.

There is a cable tie and adhesive sticker included with the Cube which allowed me to attach the Cube permanently to my desk, but since I've used this to travel, on my last trip there was no need to attach it to the desk in my hotel room.

The charger come with Anker's standard safety features such as overvoltage protection, temperature control and short-circuit protection. The charge did become a little warm while I was using it, but not alarming hot enough while charging multiple devices. I also noted that the Cube is not a dedicated surge protector. The PowerPort Cube gives worry-free 18-month warranty, lifetime \$25,000 connected equipment warranty.

The Power Strip, Anker PowerPort Cube was price at Amazon for \$22.99.



# What Is RFID, and Is It Really a Security Concern

RFID is a technology that surrounds us every day. It's in our credit cards, passports, and some of the products we buy. Even

many of our pets have RFID chips in them!

<<READ MORE>>



## How much does it currently cost the U.S. Mint to produce a penny?

- $\Rightarrow$  1/2 cent
- $\Rightarrow$  1.1 cent
- $\Rightarrow$  1.7 cent
- $\Rightarrow$  2.1 cent
- 1. Briefly describe the product or service
- 2. Write with details
- 3. Use complete sentences
- 4. Include useful descriptive words...
- 5. Personalize your review
- 6. Position the product or service among it's peers
- 7. Include a sample
- 8. Keep it truthful

These are on a few of the thing that should be consider, but the are more. Let your word flow as though you are going through each set of opening the package, reading the manual, installing/setting up, and operating the product. The let us know your likes and dislikes of the product. Let us know where or how you obtained the product and lastly, would you recommend this product to other members.

I've felt somewhat lonely over the past couple of years by not seeing reviews from fellow members from our club, and I know the editor has asked on my occasions for submission.

#### **Cybersecurity Awareness Month**

Here's a few tips to help keep your online information safe:

- Enable two-step verification and set up a secondary method of authentication for both your Arlo Secure App and email accounts.
- Create strong passwords with numbers, symbols, and a mix of upper and lowercase letters.
- Create separate passwords unique to each account.
- Select strong privacy settings and opt for the least amount of data sharing.
- Secure your home wireless network with password protection.

# What is Google One, and Is It Worth Paying For?

At a glance, the Google One service can be a bit confusing. It's more than just a simple cloud storage plan, as it's utilized by several of Google's apps and services. But with just a bit of information, you won't have any trouble understanding how Google One works or why it's important.

<<READ MORE>>

# Don't Replacer an Old Computer, Put an SSD in It.

If you have the itch to upgrade an older desktop computer or splash some cash to buy a brand new laptop to get better performance, you really should start with this cheap upgrade

<< READ MORE>>

#### **How to Upgrade Your Laptop Drive**

Upgrading your laptop's hard drive is a great way to get some extra life out of an old machine (or resurrect a dead one). Read on as we walk you through the prep work, the installation, and the followup.

<<READ MORE>>



In the age of the internet, article writers who can generate good content in a short time period are in increasingly high demand. However, writing articles or blogging under tight deadlines should not come at the expense of good writing. Here is a step-by-step guide full of great tips to help you write a good article in record time:

- 1. **Keep a list of ideas handy**. You never know when writer's block will hit. That's why it's important to keep a list of ideas for potential news articles or personal stories that could be expanded into essays. Any time you have an idea, jot it down in a notebook or in a Word document on your computer. That way, when it's time to start writing, you'll already have a place to start.
- 2. **Eliminate distractions**. A lot of people claim to work better while multitasking. Rarely is this actually the case, especially if the goal is to write an entire article in a short amount of time. The best articles require your complete and undivided attention. Before you begin writing your first sentence, turn off the TV and mute social media so you can focus solely on article writing.
- 3. **Research efficiently**. Research is important for any piece of writing, but it's also easy to fall into the trap of spending too much time researching and not enough time writing your first draft. If you're looking for facts or statistics to support your argument, try to be as specific as possible in your search terms. If you aren't finding the support you're looking for, the takeaway may be that you need to adjust your thesis or subject matter.
- 4. **Keep it simple**. A reader's attention span is generally short, so one of the best things that you can do as a writer is to keep your article direct and concise. Having a maximum word count goal will help you not only help you complete your writeups faster, but it will also result in a streamlined article that focuses on major points while eliminating fluff.
- 5. **Try writing in bullet points**. Writing in bullet points can help you organize your thoughts and

- complete the article faster. Also, bullet point articles often drive higher traffic, since search engine algorithms tend to prioritize articles with bullet points and subheadings. Writing in bullet points is not only a time-saver, it can also increase the likelihood your article reaching your target audience.
- 6. **Edit after writing**. One of the most common mistakes that writers make is trying to edit while they write. Resist this urge. Trying to edit while in the process of writing can slow you down, increasing the likelihood that you won't even make it past the intro. Good writers know that writing and editing are two distinct and separate processes. Once you've gotten to the end, then you can go back and focus on writing the perfect first line, sharpening your first paragraph, or tying things together with a clever kicker.
- 7. **Set a timer**. A great way to become a quicker and more efficient writer is to practice writing to a timer. Set a timer for 30 minutes and see how much you can get done. You'll be surprised how much you can produce during a half hour of focused, uninterrupted writing.

#### **VIDEO**

How to write an article—best practice





Answer: The penny is basically worthless. Actually, it's worse than worthless. It costs the U.S. government 2.1 cents to produce every penny during the

fiscal year 2021. The 2.1 cent production cost represents an increase from the 2016 production cost of 1.5 cents. Higher prices for copper and zinc accounted for much of the increases. Despite efforts to cut the costs of manufacturing the coin, it seems unlikely that the cost of making it will ever sink below one cent. The rising cost of producing pennies has prompted calls to discontinue the coin altogether.

### **LCACE HISTORY**



Who was the president of LCACE in 2007

### **Computer Services**

Desktops, Laptops, All-in-Ones and more



During our October Zoom meeting the following two computer services were mentioned.

#### **White Box Computers**

They say they are the place for all your computer repairs & upgrades at nearly half the prices of the competition.

https://whiteboxcomputers.org

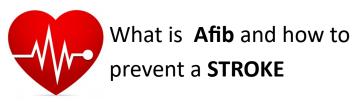
847-833-9324

#### **ZYTEK Services**

Has been around for over 30 years and offers the best in fast, friendly, high-quality, fair price computer service solutions

847-336-2259

#### Your Heart and Your Watch

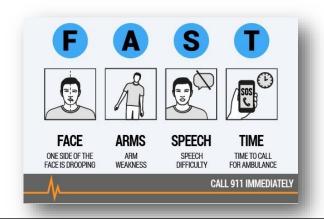


Improving your heart with the Apple or Fitbit Watch explained by a Physician.

#### << VIDEO>>

How to prevent a stroke with a SMARTWATCH

#### << VIDEO>>





One great thing about getting

Old is that you can get out of all sorts of social obligations just by saying you're too tired

—GEORGE CARLIN















Phone: (847) 623-3815

### **Members**



### **Members Web Sites**

e-mail me at editor@lcace.org

www.pegasusphotos.smugmug.com



Take a good look, you just might see yourself.



**LCACE Photo Albums** 



