All the News That Fits. We Print.



All the News That is Fit to E-Mail.

The Useless Button

August 2024

Free to All















Website

Technology

Curated by our editors

Open invitation to submit articles to our publication

Opinion pieces, reported stories, personal essays, works of humor, illustrated narratives, photography and of course technology pieces are welcome.

Newsletter@TechEdConnect.org

Carl Sagan - Pale blue dot



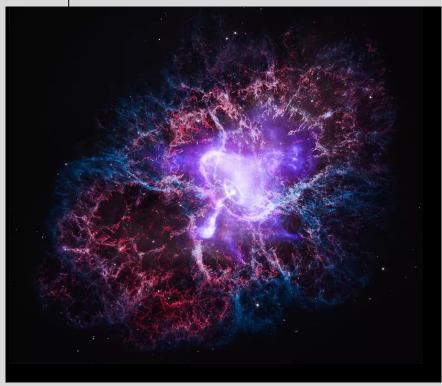
(ARSTechnica) New Antikythera mechanism analysis challenges century-old assumption Continue Reading...

TechEd Connect sis a non-profit

technology club located in Westchester County, New York. Our goal is to increase the technology knowledge of our members and our community.

Jon Dobbs - Editor

David Lerner - Graphics Deb Meisels - Proofreader





Out of this world - NASA unveils stunning new images from space

(IsraelHayom) Continue Reading...



























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What is AI?

Everyone thinks they know but no one can agree. And that's a problem.



Al is sexy, Al is cool. Al is entrenching inequality, upending the job market, and wrecking education. All is a theme-park ride, All is a magic trick. Al is our final invention, Al is a moral obligation. Al is the buzzword of the decade, AI is marketing jargon from 1955. AI is humanlike, AI is alien. AI is super-smart and as dumb as dirt. The AI boom will boost the economy, the AI bubble is about to burst. AI will increase abundance and empower humanity to maximally flourish in the universe. At will kill us all.

What the hell is everybody talking about?

(MIT Technology Review) Continue Reading..























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President's Message



As you surely know by now, Tuesday, August 6, was our first in-person General Meeting since March 5, 2020, when we met at Keller Williams. More than four years have passed (1615 days to be exact, but who is counting?) but we never stopped meeting, on Zoom admittedly. But this was also our first ever Hybrid General Meeting. We had a better in-person attendance than originally planned, in spite of a very heavy rain. With this new arrangement, I certainly hope that we will continue to have record attendance, both in-person and online.

I also wanted to share with all of you that our new website is almost ready for general public access. We have made it available for review to all board members. We have collected their feedback and are addressing issues and suggestions. We hope to make it available to everyone in the not-too-distant future. This is very exciting news because we have been working at it for about two years.

Fake phone calls, emails, and text continue to abound. They are getting more sophisticated every day and are targeting a section of the population that is well known to be more vulnerable: us, seniors. Any pressure tactic, poor grammar, or spelling mistakes is a red flag that should immediately raise eyebrows and your suspicion. But scammers are getting smarter every day. So a perfectly written email or text is not a guarantee of legitimacy. So please please please, be on your guards, be vigilant, and be safe.

Dr. Pierre Darmon

President, **TechEd**Connect® (formerly Westchester PC Users Group) PC/Mac Computer Support and Education Consultant

Cell: (914) 646-3813





Border Collie Saves Chihuahua from Being Run over by Car



We reserve the right not to publish anything we consider inappropriate.























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We'll show you how to get to inbox zero while keeping all your old messages, photos and videos.



Space? Regain 15GB Without Losing a Thing (CNET) Continue Reading.



Buddy's Baby Crawling School





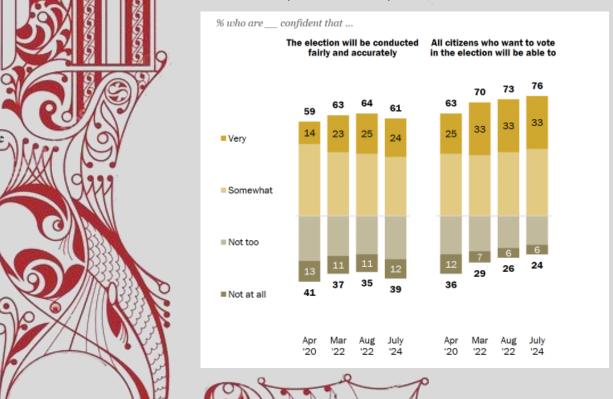






Many Americans are confident the 2024 election will be conducted fairly

Yet Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP are far less confident of this than Democrats and Democratic leaners, according to a Pew Research Center survey conducted July 1-7, 2024.



(Pew Research Center) Continue Reading...





















Website







In many cases, you should stick to official software websites for the safest downloads. You'll avoid malware and bundled junk by downloading directly from the homepage of popular software.

Ninite is a trustworthy resource for bulk installation of essential Windows software. It automatically declines toolbars and junk, ensuring a secure and hassle-free experience.

Many other sites for free downloads are also available, with their own minor advantages.





(MUO) Continue Reading...



(38 Pieces of Graffiti That Deserve Your Attention) Continue Reading...

























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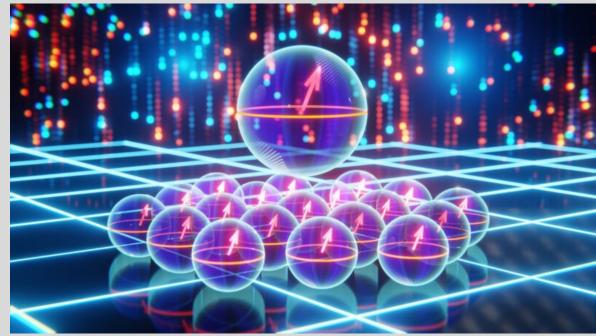
Free Stuff

Website

Joi



Why every quantum computer will need a powerful classical computer



Error-correcting a quantum computer can mean processing 100TB every second.

The unsolved piece that is being addressed is the huge amount of classical computations that are going to be necessary to make the quantum hardware work. Specifically, it's targeting the huge amount of data processing that will be needed for a key part of quantum error correction: recognizing when an error has occurred.

(ARSTechnica) Continue Reading...



(TED Talks) The mind behind Linux | Linus Torvalds TED Continue Reading...





















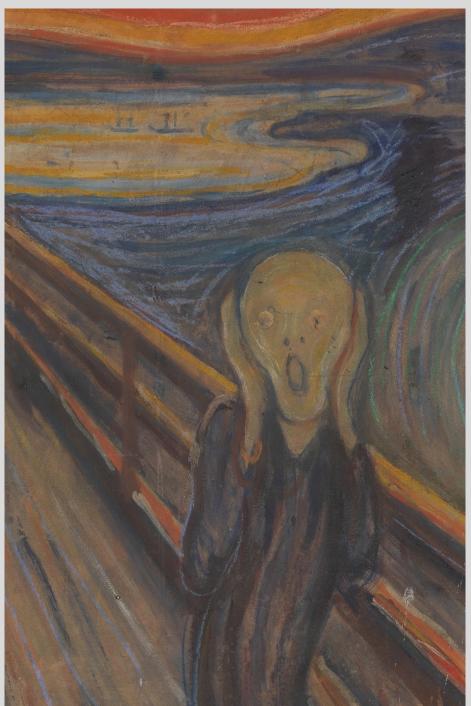




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Me after reading the news! The Scream

Artvee







(Wired) Continue Reading...



How North Korea Made the Perfect **Counterfeit \$100**

(YouTube)



Secure Boot is busted on hundreds of PCs from Dell, Acer, Intel, and others

(PCWorld) Continue Reading...



(ARSTechnica) Continue Reading...























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August



TechEdConnect® Calendar Monday to Thursday

Link to Website Calendar



day August 2024 🔻			
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
29 pm Exploring Software with Pierre		31 2:30pm CANCELED: Westchester PC 7pm Executive Board Meeting	Aug '
5	6	7	
pm Navigating Windows	7pm NEW DATE: General Meeting: F	4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (Zoo 7pm All Things Mobile	
12	13	14	15
pm Upgrade & Repair	7pm Office Suites	4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (in p	7pm Cultural Technology with Davi
19	20	21	22
	7pm CANCELED: Photo & Video Edit	4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (Zoo 7pm The Curious Lion	
26	27	28	
pm Exploring Software with Pierre		2:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (in p 7pm Executive Board Meeting	iesentivon 200

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Affordable Connectivity **Program Application**































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September -





Today September 2024	-		
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
7pm Exploring Software with Pierre	27	28 2:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (in p 7pm Executive Board Meeting	29
Labor Day 7pm Apple for beginners	7pm General Meeting	4 4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (Zoo 7pm All Things Mobile	5
7pm Upgrade & Repair	7pm Office Suites	11 4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (in p	12
16	17 7pm Photo & Video Editing	18 4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (Zoo	19 7pm Cultural Technology with David
23	24	25 2:30pm SPECIAL TIME: Westchester 7pm Executive Board Meeting	7pm Digital Cameras
30 7pm Exploring Software with Pierre	Oct 1 7pm General Meeting	2 4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (Zoo 7pm All Things Mobile	3

Quantum Computing Course -Math and Theory for Beginners (Youtube)

Why New York Lifted the Bayonne Bridge





























Articles



Wild elephants may have names that other elephants use to call them



Wild elephants seem to address each other using distinctive, rumbling sounds that could be akin to individual names.

That's according to a provocative new study in the journal Nature Ecology & Evolution, which was inspired by earlier work showing that bottlenose dolphins have signature whistles.

(NPR) Read More...





Al able to solve math problems, discover formulas

Technion researchers develop an algorithm for discovering new formulas and relationships between mathematical constants; 'Algorithms can indeed provide the necessary information to generate creative insights and lead to the discovery of new formulas' they

(YNet) Read More...





















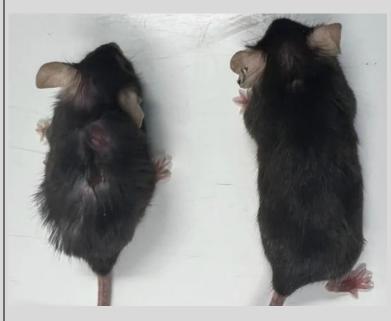




Articles



'Supermodel granny' drug extends life in animals



A drug has increased the lifespans of laboratory animals by nearly 25%, in a discovery scientists hope can slow human ageing too.

The treated mice were known as "supermodel grannies" in the lab because of their youthful appearance.

They were healthier, stronger and developed fewer cancers than their unmedicated peers.

The drug is already being tested in people, but whether it would have the same anti-ageing effect is unknown.

(BBC) Read More...

View Amazon Price Changes with Camelcamelcamel



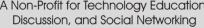
Prices on Amazon change constantly. Knowing the price history can give you an edge in finding good deals. It'll also help you see through the deception when a deal isn't really a deal. So how do you track those prices without manually checking the page every day?

(How-To Geek) Read More...































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TED Talks



(The Enterprisers Project)

TED Conferences is an American-Canadian nonprofit media organization that posts international talks online for free distribution under the slogan "ideas worth spreading"

(Wikipedia) Continue Reading...



12 Predictions for the Future of Technology

How stress can affect your memory



How to speak so that people want to listen



Learn a new culture



Why Space Debris Flies **Through Regulatory Gaps**



As activities in space increase, the number of debris objects in orbit also grows. Debris endangers the satellites that provide radio, television, and internet services, support weather forecasts, and monitor for hurricanes, solar flares, and other hazards.

(Issues) Continue Reading...



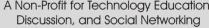
How Was the World's Biggest Dome Built? - Florence Cathedral



10 Free AI Tools That Are Actually Great! 2024































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Survey says most believe generative AI is conscious, which may prove it's good at making us hallucinate, too



Animated infographics that explain how everyday things work.

Inside the Easy Eight Sherman Tank - YouTube



How a Mechanical Watch Works



How Speakers Make Sound



How Solar Power Works



67% regard ChatGPT and other AI tools as conscious.

When you interact with ChatGPT and other conversational generative Al tools, they process your input through algorithms to compose a response that can feel like it came from a fellow sentient being despite the reality of how large language models (LLMs) function.

(Tech Radar) Continue Reading...



Articles &





















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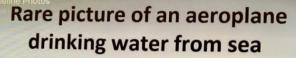
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Articles

AFTER IGNORING
YOU FOR 20
MINUTES, YOU'D BE
SURPRISED HOW
QUICKLY
EMPLOYEES AT
LOWE'S ASSIST YOU
WHEN YOU TRY AND
START A CHAINSAW.









"The ideal subject
of totalitarian rule
is not the convinced Nazi
or the dedicated communist,
but people for whom
the distinction between
fact and fiction, true
and false, no longer exists."

 Hannah Arendt, "The Origins of Totalitarianism" (1951)

ngflip.com





















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Everything happens for a reason.



Sometimes the reason is you're stupid and make bad decisions.





What's the worst thing that could happen?







Thank You Pinterest

























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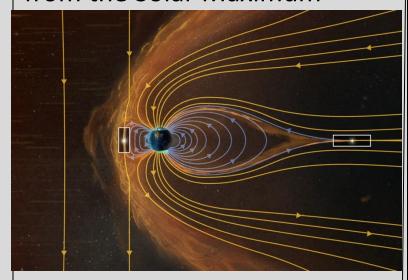
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Expect Auroras, Solar Flares and More Space Weather from the Solar Maximum



Aurora sightings may become more common, and satellite communications and power grids could be disrupted, as solar activity peaks. Our nearest star is always volatile, but its magnetic action waxes and wanes on an 11-year loop. The sun is thought to be in a peak now, although scientists will need another year or two to analyze data before they can say for sure.

(SciAm) Continue Reading...



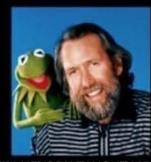
How America's Futuristic Underwater Drone will Change Warfare.



WHAT MY CHILDHOOD HEROS TAUGHT ME



TO LOVE THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE



JIM HENSON TAUGHT ME TO LOVE LIFE



MR. ROGERS TAUGHT ME TO LOVE OTHERS AND MYSELF



STEVE IRWIN TAUGHT ME TO LOVE NATURE AND EVERYTHING IN IT



BOB ROSS TAUGHT ME TO LOVE PEACE,



STAN LEE TAUGHT ME TO LOVE MY IMAGINATION AND LET IT RUN FREE

AND I WOULDN'T CHANGE IT FOR THE WORLD.





















Workshops

Articles

Happy 50th birthday to the UPC barcode - no one expected you would revolutionize global commerce



The first modern barcode was scanned 50 years ago this summer – on a 10-pack of chewing gum in a grocery store in Troy, Ohio.

Fifty is ancient for most technologies, but barcodes are still going strong. More than 10 billion barcodes are scanned every day around the world. And newer types of barcode symbols, such as QR codes, have created even more uses for the technology.

> (theConversation) Continue Reading...



Bald eagle courtship ritual



Verifying facts in the age of Al librarians offer 5 strategies



The problem is widespread. According to a 2021 Pearson Institute/AP-NORC poll, "Ninety-five percent of Americans believe the spread of misinformation is a problem." The Pearson Institute researches methods to reduce global conflicts.

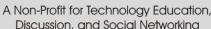
> (theConversation) Continue Reading...



Doing Yoga with your dog





























Articles





A plotter is a machine that produces vector graphics drawings. Plotters draw lines on paper using a pen, or in some applications, use a knife to cut a material like vinyl or leather. In the latter case, they are sometimes known as a cutting plotter.

In the past, plotters were used in applications such as computer-aided design, as they were able to produce line drawings much faster and of a higher quality than contemporary conventional printers. Smaller desktop plotters were often used for business graphics.



Plotters are used primarily in technical drawing and CAD applications, where they have the advantage of working on very large paper sizes while maintaining high resolution. Another use has been found by replacing the pen with a cutter, and in this form plotters can be found in many garment and sign shops.

Plotters offered the fastest way to efficiently produce very large drawings or color high-resolution vector-based artwork when computer memory was very expensive and processor power was very limited, and other types of printers had limited graphic output capabilities.

Wikipedia is WONDERFUL



Continue Reading...



















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(stock.adobe.com)

Don't Fall for It: Hackers Pounce on CrowdStrike Outage With Phishing Emails



UPDATE: CrowdStrike has also spotted cybercriminals using the outage as bait to hack prospective targets. This includes "impersonating CrowdStrike staff in phone calls," and "posing as independent researchers, claiming to have evidence the technical issue is linked to a cyberattack

(PCMag) Continue Reading...



Fake AI editor ads on Facebook push passwordstealing malware



A Facebook malvertising campaign targets users searching for AI image editing tools and steals their credentials by tricking them into installing fake apps that mimic legitimate software.

(Bleeping Continue Reading.. Computer)



















Scams

Intel's 'Raptor Lake' Desktop CPU Tesla Sued Over Another Bug: What to Know, What to Do | Autopilot Crash Death Now



Unstable 13th and 14th Gen Intel Core processors are raising lots of concerns for desktop owners. Here's the latest on what's happening—and what your next move should be.

(PC Mag)

Continue Reading...





Another lawsuit has been filed against Tesla over its Autopilot system, this time from the parents of a motorcyclist who was killed in a crash with a Model 3.

The crash happened while the Tesla driver had Autopilot engaged. The parents, who also sued the driver of the Tesla, said the Autopilot sensors "should have identified the hazard posed by" the motorcycle. The vehicle hit the bike going between 75-80 miles per hour, Reuters reports.

(PC Mag)

Continue Reading...

















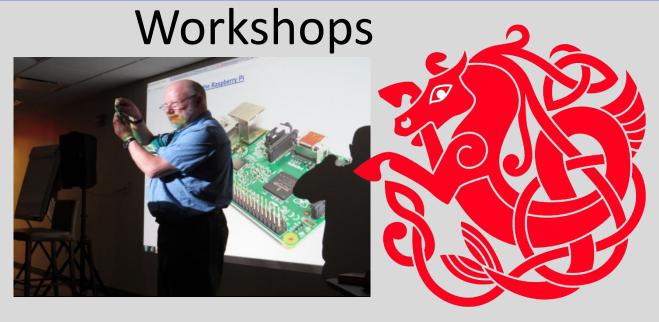








Sources



ALL WORKSHOPS ARE ONLINE

TechEdConnect® has workshops for everyone who uses a computing device. Some workshops have a formal classroom-type approach; others are informal meetings where ideas and problems are discussed. Below is a list of the various workshops and the leaders.

PHOTO & VIDEO EDITING Jim Iscaro

Learn to take pictures off your phone or camera, save them in an organized manner, back them up, and select the best. We then edit them so they look like the picture we wanted to take. We'll use an easy photo editor that is available in Windows and Mac and we will cover apps on Android and iOS devices.

TECHNOLOGY Anthony Tedesco

Meeting starts with discussions on any related area of technology attendees feel interested in. Followed by a presentation on a different technology topic each month.

NAVIGATING WINDOWS (Alternating months) **Pierre Darmon**

Q&A to address questions on Windows, from printing to device drivers, from changing default apps to addressing performance issues, and much more.

THE CURIOUS LION John Moore

What to do if a light does not light. What to do when your hair dryer will not turn on. How to map the circuits in your breaker panel. How to hook up a generator if you don't want to hire an electrician. How a 208-volt circuit differs from a 120-volt circuit. Bring your questions to find answers.









Workshops

UPGRADE & REPAIR Jonathan Hauff

We cover hardware and software. The good, fun, and bad stuff. Sessions feature adding to your PC (cameras, phones, mass storage, backups) and upgrades; error messages; stubborn installations; dreaded "blue screens of death," conflicts, and buggy programs, virus/spyware/identity issues and how to understand and solve them all!

DIGITAL CAMERAS Allan and Heather Turnbull

Do you want to know about the symbols and buttons on your camera? Do you want to know how to take a decent picture, download your pictures to your computer, and send them by email? Bring your digital camera and manual. We show you how to use it in a relaxed, informal, and hands-on environment.

ALL THINGS MOBILE

A roundtable discussion of Android and Apple devices. Share your phone and tablet experiences, apps, and favorite websites. We'll learn together. You don't need a device; we'll share ours with you. Open to all levels.

OFFICE SUITES George Hauss

Ah, you think you are an expert and don't have to come to George Hauss' workshop? In fact, George has been piling in the tips and tricks that make MS Office, LibreOffice, OpenOffice, and even the Mac Office Suite (iWork) much quicker and easier to use. Bring your own shortcuts to share. Put this workshop on your calendar and learn what you think you already know.

APPLE FOR BEGINNERS (Alternating months) **Pierre Darmon**

This workshop is geared for beginners. It is conducted as a Q&A for the most part. We cover all things Apple, from the Mac to the iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch, AirTags, and their relationship.

CULTURAL TECHNOLOGY David Lerner

Recent discussions on archaeology, gorgeous stained glass windows, World War II history, ships from the classical age. David Lerner shares his many interests with us and holds our attention throughout his workshop.

EXPLORING SOFTWARE Pierre Darmon

A different topic each month. Topics span from computer security to the paperless office to Chromebooks and printers, just to name a few.

DDG-105 takes a nose-dive



Archival: Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster | NBC Nightly News









A Non-Profit for Technology Education,

















Workshops



Westchester PC-Renew Gary Feiman or Jimmy Lamake at 914-297-8490 email to WPCRenew@TechEdCOnnect.org. Learn to rehab computers and help our community at the same time. This is a hands-on workshop that refurbishes computers. No experience is necessary; we will teach you. We show you how to check out and install hardware and operating systems. Then all computers are given to nonprofit organizations in our community.

WPC-Renew is continuing to meet online and has also resumed in person workshops.

Since its creation WPC-Renew has refurbished approximately 1,500 computers and provided them free of charge to deserving people and organizations.

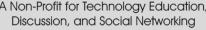
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Workshops



Dr. Richard, a member of **WPC-Renew** sets up the computers in the cottages at Children's Village.

The kids all think the dozens computers come from her.

























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Quotes by Sigmund Freud

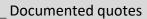
Attributed to Freud, no evidence Sometimes, a cigar is a cigar.



can most highly recommend the Gestapo to everyone. See the blog post by Michael Thaler

Health is the ability to love and work.

Before you diagnose yourself with depression or an inferiority complex, make sure you're not just surrounded by assholes.





ot all men are worthy of love

Civilization and its Discontents. The complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud.

London 1961: Hogarth

With the help of the necessary boldness and lack of conscience it is not difficult to amass a large fortune, and for such services a title will of course be a suitable reward. Jokes and their Relations to the Unconscious. The complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud. London 1961: Hogarth



o be healthy is wonderful if one isn't condemned to be alone.

Ernst L. Freud: The Letters of Sigmund Freud. New York, 1961: Basic Books. April 29, 1885, to Martha Bernays

A human being is so miserable when all he wants is to stay alive.

Ernst L. Freud: The Letters of Sigmund Freud. New York, 1961: Basic Books. Aug.14 1885, to Martha Freud

By making our enemy small, mean, contemptible, comical, we take a roundabout route to getting for ourselves the enjoyment of vanquishing him, which the third person – who has gone to no effort – endorses with his laughter.

Sigmund Freud, The Joke and Its Relation to the Unconscious. Translated by Joyce Crick with an Introduction by John Carey. London (Penguin Books Ltd.) 2002, p. 100.



Discussion, and Social Networking



















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CNN



MakeUseOf



Sources

Newsweek



PC Magazine



You are welcome to send suggestions for additions to this list.

Wired



TechRepublic



Each source either has no paywall allowing you to read the complete article from the link we provide or

DW



Ars Technica



they allow the link to bypass the paywall.

Politico



CNET



The links on this page go to the most recent front page of each periodical.

PEW



Defense



Times of Israel



BBC News



Reuters



ScienceDaily



NY Times



SciTechDaily



How-to Geek



Foreign Affairs



Please be advised that all links in this newsletter will pull up various publications. If any publications object to said use please notify **TechEd**Connect® and we will comply with said request.

























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Audio Books







The Adventures of Sherlock **Holmes**



Moby Dick, or the Whale Wonderful



She



Movies

Wonderful

The Count Of Monte Cristo 2002





The 39 Steps (1935) Alfred Hitchcock



The Guns of August



The Undefeated JOHN WAYNE

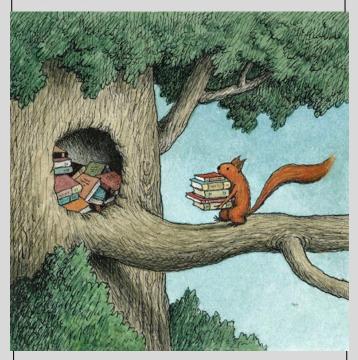


Resources

This is a list of resources from the web. All are free.

It is legal to use their content.

FREE







In archive.org select to open download menu























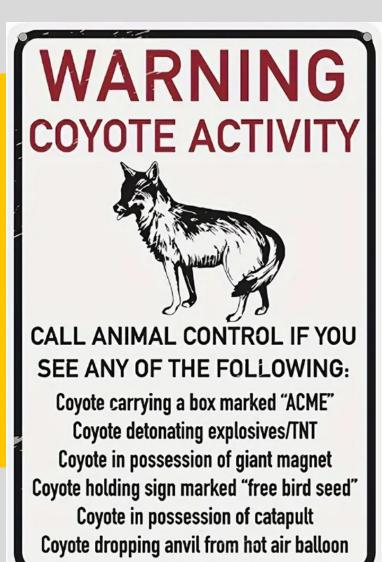
Workshops

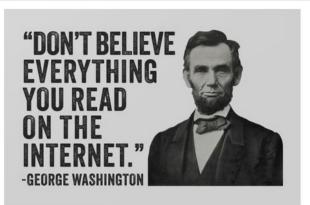
The Funnies

Do y'all remember, before the internet, that people thought the cause of stupidity was the lack of access to information? Yeah. It wasn't that.

Before you diagnose yourself with depression or low self-esteem. first make sure you are not, in fact. surrounded by assholes.

- Sigmund Freud

























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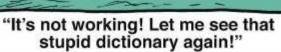
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CAN YOU BELIEVE I'M







