**All the News** That Fits. We Print.



**All the News** That is Fit to F-Mail.

### The Useless Button

November 2024

Free to All















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### **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



#### **TechEd** Connect so 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.



With each replay, it's still as astonishing as it was when I saw it on October 13, standing on an elevated platform less than 4 miles away. It was surreal watching SpaceX's enormous 20-story-tall Super Heavy rocket booster plummeting through the sky before being caught back at its launch pad by giant mechanical arms.

(Ars Technica) Continue Reading..



























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#### 35 years ago: The fall of the Berlin Wall

Bornholmer Strasse was one of the ways to cross the Berlin Wall, the very symbol of injustice and the division of not just Germany, but almost the entire world. Being built in 1961 to plug the final loophole for those trying to flee the GDR it had cut the city of Berlin in two and separated families for decades. Heavily guarded, it made any attempts to escape into the west virtually impossible.



Those who would defy it regardless took a terrible chance with their lives. Over a hundred people died trying to overcome the barrier, according to the most recent available figures by the Germany's Federal Agency for Civic Education.

(Al Arabiya English) Continue Reading..

































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#### **President's Message**

Recently, we haven't made much design changes on the new website. Instead, we have been filling in content. It's a good sign, a very good sign, that we are getting close to a go live. There will still be further design work after launch, but we have postponed several less critical items until then.

After we go live, we will kick in our advertising campaign. The TV commercial is ready, and so is the print ad. They both refer to the new website, hence the current hold on that effort. We will start small, to test the waters and not blow away our advertising budget. The results will drive the direction of the campaign.

The results of the annual newsletter contest were announced at the APCUG annual meeting on November 9. We didn't make the top 3 slots. Oh well. There is always next year.

With the holiday season approaching real fast, and the surge in shopping, there will also be a surge in scams. Continue to remain vigilant, make sure to always pay online with a credit card, not with a debit card. And check your financial statements and online accounts regularly to make sure everything is ok. Report any breach or unauthorized transactions immediately to your financial institution, and possibly to the authorities. Happy holiday shopping.

#### Dr. Pierre Darmon

President, TechEdConnect® (formerly Westchester PC Users Group) PC/Mac Computer Support and Education Consultant Cell: (914) 646-3813





Winner of Nobel Prize in chemistry describes how his work could transform lives



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





















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Dogs do not have extraordinary weapons, sensors, speed or size. Yet, after humans, they are the super predators of this planet. Successful in almost every environment

A single dog is not a dangerous opponent for a self-possessed human with a stick. Yet, a pack of dogs is terror itself.

Dogs use their intelligence to build strong social bonds of affection and loyalty. The bonds allow the pack to act in concert when hunting or fighting. Love makes the pack formidable.

Intra pack disputes are resolved with posturing and displays Everyone is careful not to damage the pack ability to hunt or fight. Jealousy, hierarchy, even sex.

Are resolved as peaceably as possible.



Dog mon ends beagle purpies fight

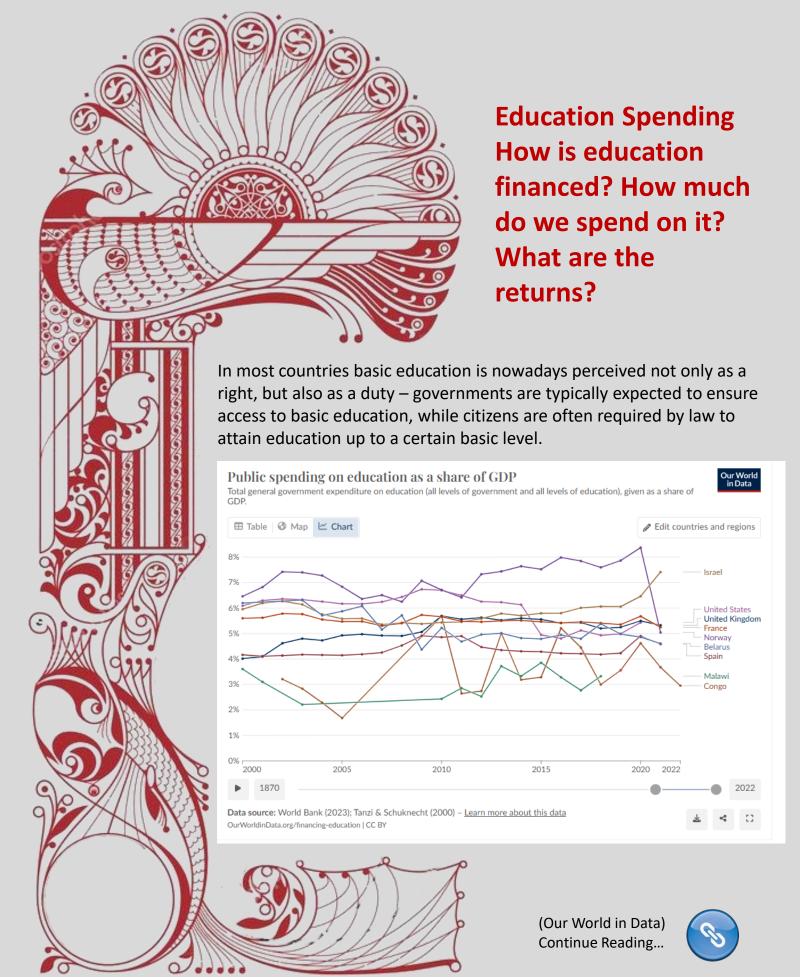


Dissertation on Dogs

My Golden Retrievers Gentle Approach to a Terrified Rescue Puppy























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### BUNDLED UP ON BROAD

a warm winter clothing drive for our neighbors in need



PHILADELPHIA, PA | CONTACT KNITZVOT@GMAIL.COM

The hunger, poverty, and trauma of so many people at home and abroad can feel overwhelming despite our best. But here's a simple way to make a concrete positive impact in the lives of our food-insecure neighbors:

The Bundled Up on Broad drive puts warm clothes and other winter necessities directly into the hands of the families who come to Congregation Rodeph Shalom's food pantry each week. There are two ways to donate:

- (1) Visit our Amazon wishlist (open now through November 29) and shop for mittens, hats, warm socks, and more! Amazon will ship them straight to us, and we'll distribute them to our neighbors who would otherwise have to face the winter with inadequate and outgrown clothing.
- (2) Bid in our online silent auction (November 15 22) of items handmade by our synagogue knitting and crocheting group! What's a better holiday gift than a gorgeous, one-of-a-kind shawl, blanket, or baby sweater? Every dollar goes straight to our wishlist.

Questions? Contact Susan Roth (<a href="mailto:knitzvot@gmail.com">knitzvot@gmail.com</a>) or Ellen Poster (<a href="mailto:ellenajme@aol.com">ellenajme@aol.com</a>)!



Wishlist



**Auction** 























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### **50 Of The Most Interesting Historical Photos From The "History In Pictures"**



Queen Isabel II, Veiled, 1855 C By Camillo Torreggiani. Masterful Use Of Light And Shadows To Make It Look Like Real Lace

(boredpanda) Continue Reading...





















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### **Scientists Have Discovered a** "Lost" Mayan Megacity, Complete With Hidden Pyramids



Using lidar technology, Tulane University researchers have uncovered thousands of unexplored Maya structures, including a large city with pyramids, reshaping our understanding of Maya civilization's vastness. (Artists's concept).

(SciTechDaily) Continue Reading...





(WashPost) Continue Reading...



(Wired) Continue Reading...



(BBC) Continue Reading...

















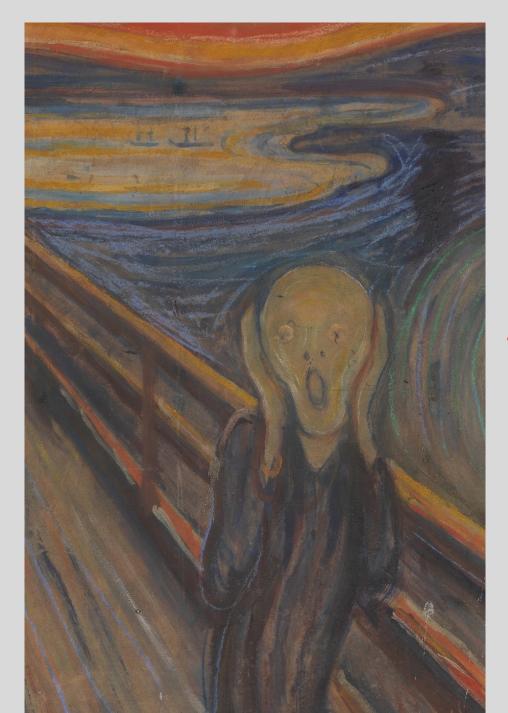






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Idaho health district abandons COVID shots amid flood of anti-vaccine nonsense

> (Ars Technica) Continue Reading...



Climate change fueled the fury of hurricanes Helene and Milton

> (Science News) Continue Reading...



**Harvard students** turn Meta's Ray-Ban **Smart Glasses into a** surveillance nightmare

Me after reading the news! The Scream







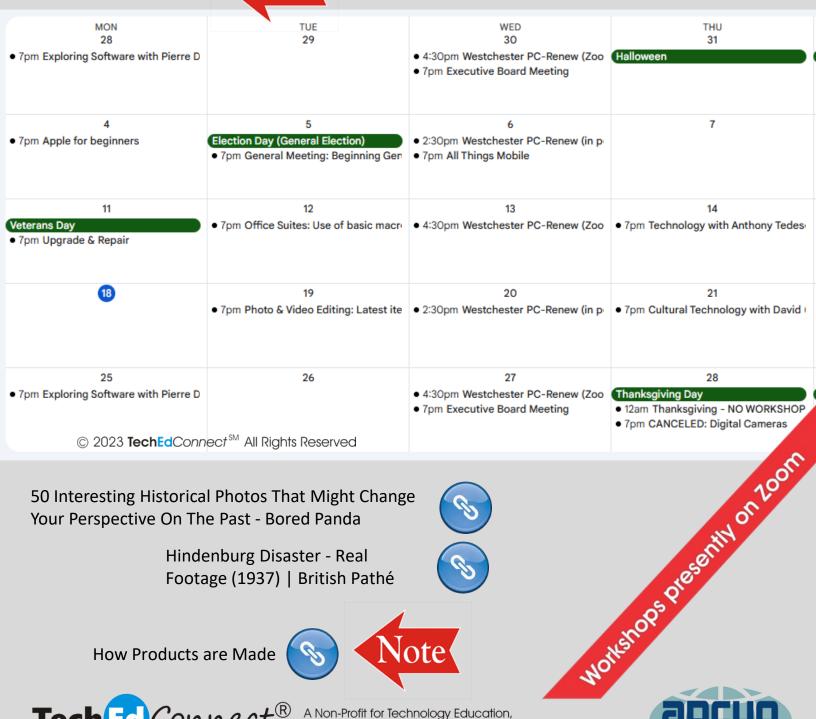
(YouTube) Watch...



#### November

#### **TechEd**Connect® Calendar Monday to Thursday

Link to Website Calendar



50 Interesting Historical Photos That Might Change Your Perspective On The Past - Bored Panda



Hindenburg Disaster - Real Footage (1937) | British Pathé





How Products are Made







































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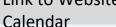
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### **December**

**TechEd***Connect*<sup>®</sup> Calendar Monday to Thursday

Link to Website





•		Calcilaai	
MON 25	TUE 26	WED 27	THU 28
	26		Thanksgiving Day
7pm Exploring Software with Pierre D		7pm Executive Board Meeting	12am Thanksgiving - NO WORKSHOP
		• 7pm Executive Board Meeting	7pm CANCELED: Digital Cameras
2	3	4	5
7pm Navigating Windows	7pm General Meeting: Holiday Tech C	2:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (in p     7pm All Things Mobile	
9	10	11	12
•		•	
7pm Upgrade & Repair	7pm Office Suites	4:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (Zoo	Tpm Technology with Anthony Tedes
16	17	18	19
	• 7pm Photo & Video Editing	2:30pm Westchester PC-Renew (in potential)     7pm The Curious Lion	7pm Cultural Technology with David I
23	24	25	26
7pm Executive Board Meeting	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	7pm Digital Cameras
		• 12am Christmas - NO WORKSHOPS	
		4:30pm CANCELED: Westchester PC-	
30	31	Jan 1	2
• 7pm Exploring Software with Pierre D	New Year's Eve	New Year's Day	
		• 12am New Year's Day - NO WORKSHO	
		2 more	

Tell You The Difference Between A Power Strip And A Surge Protector





Patient dog teaches young puppy how to use the pet door - YouTube



Fail Safe (1964) -YouTube



























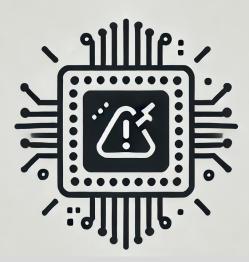






#### **Articles**

Current Issues with Intel's 13th and 14th Gen CPUs: What You **Need to Know** 



Intel's 13th and 14th Gen processors, which promised to bring significant advancements in performance and efficiency, have unfortunately been marred by a series of issues affecting users worldwide. A prominent concern is the Intel voltage issues that have led to system instability, crashes, and other complications. If you're considering upgrading to these processors or have already done so, it's important to be aware of the challenges that have come to light.

> (AC Computer Warehouse) Read More...



Why Is Your Computer Overheating and How to Cool It Down



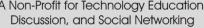
When your PC is overheating, act quickly to prevent data loss or permanent hardware damage. Overworked fans will drain your laptop battery in no time. And maintaining stable core temps is vital for the long-term performance of your battery and other internal components like your CPU (Central Processing Unit).

There could be many factors causing your computer to overheat, so try the following steps to reduce your PC's temperature:

(Avast Academy) Read More...



























#### **Articles**

**New Harvard Discovery Reveals** Mars Could Have Supported Life Far Longer Than Thought



Evidence suggests that billions of years ago, Mars may have been a thriving environment for life. Today, however, the planet is cold, dry, and stripped of the magnetic field that might once have protected it. This transformation has turned Mars into a kind of forensic scene, where scientists piece together clues to determine if—and when—the Red Planet could have supported life.

(SciTechDaily) Read More...



US vaccinations fall again as more parents refuse lifesaving shots for kids



Measles, whooping cough, polio, tetanus—devastating and sometimes deadly diseases await comebacks in the US as more and more parents are declining routine childhood vaccines that have proved safe and effective.

The vaccination rates among kindergartners have fallen once again, dipping into the range of 92 percent in the 2023–2024 school year, down from about 93 percent the previous school year and 95 percent in 2019–2020. That's according to an analysis of the latest vaccination data published today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(ars Technica) Read More...





























Sources

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#### **Articles**

#### **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...



Why the Soviet Computer Failed



The surprising reason zebras have stripes - Cella Wright



Why did it take so long to find giant squids? - Anna Rothschild



#### **Hubble Unveils Explosive** Supernova in Stunning Spiral Galaxy



NGC 1672, a stunning barred spiral galaxy located 49 million light-years away in the constellation Dorado, puts on a dazzling light show, courtesy of Hubble's detailed imaging.

(SciTechDaily) Continue Reading...





The Partisan -Leonard Cohen -YouTube



An Updated List Of Google **Search Operators** 





























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Joir



Jal Mahal: The Water Palace of Jaipur – A Floating Marvel

Animated infographics that explain how everyday things

work. B52

B52 Bomber Boeing Plane How it Works US Airforce Bomber



Dragonflies: Anatomy of the World's Top Predator

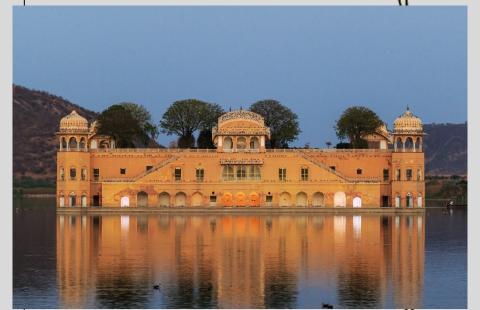


Inside the Horten Flying Wing



Inside the C-5 Super Galaxy: The Ultimate & Biggest Military Transport Aircraft





Nestled in the serene waters of Man Sagar Lake in the heart of Jaipur, India, Jal Mahal, meaning "Water Palace," stands as a breathtaking testament to the architectural brilliance of Rajasthan. The palace, appearing to float on the lake's surface, has enchanted visitors for centuries with its ethereal beauty, historical significance, and connection to the royal heritage of the region.

(The Archaeologist) Continue Reading...



Articles ø







### he Great Smog of London - 1952

### **Articles**

Recent research suggests that the total number of fatalities was considerably greater, with estimates of between 10,000

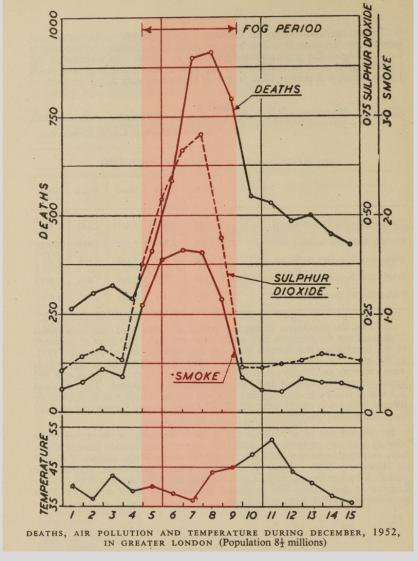
and 12,000 deaths.

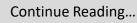
A 1953 report by the UK government's Committee on Air Pollution included this chart showing a "clear correlation between the pollution by smoke and sulphur dioxide, and the daily death rate in London"

The Great Smog of London, or Great Smog of 1952, was a severe air pollution event that affected London, England, in December 1952. A period of unusually cold weather, combined with an anticyclone and windless conditions, collected airborne pollutants—mostly arising from the use of coal—to form a thick layer of smog over the city. It lasted from Friday 5 December to Tuesday 9 December 1952, then dispersed quickly when the weather changed.[3][4]

Witness History, BBC World Service - YouTube





























Workshops

### **Articles**

#### Generative Al Defined: How It Works, Benefits, and Limitations

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence capable of generating new content — including text, images, or code — often in response to a prompt entered by a user. Its models are increasingly incorporated into online tools and chatbots, which allow users to type questions or instructions into an input field. In the output field, the AI model will generate a human-like response.

> (TechRepublic) Continue Reading...



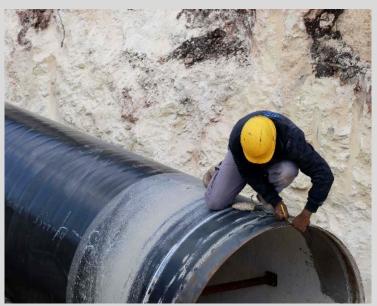
#### The Best Free Software for 2024

The right apps make everything easier. We've got more than 50 top-notch picks to help you be more productive, more creative, and more secure on your PC. And they're all free.





#### Desalination Solves Israel's Water Shortage but Leads to Magnesium Deficiency Risks



For years, Israelis were told to save water. Widespread media campaigns told citizens that Israel was "drying up" and that every effort was to be made to consume less water. That has become a distant memory, as the country undertook a massive effort to desalinate seawater at the beginning of this century.

(the media line) Continue Reading...

Container ship sails straight to shore by university football field - YouTube





Listen to these Orca whales imitate human speech























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#### **Articles**

Russia fines Google more money than there is in entire world



A Russian court has fined Google two undecillion roubles - a two followed by 36 zeroes - for restricting Russian state media channels on YouTube.

In dollar terms that means the tech giant has been told to pay

Despite being one of the world's wealthiest companies, that is considerably more than the \$2 trillion Google is worth.

In fact, it is far greater than the world's total GDP, which is estimated by the International Monetary Fund to be \$110 trillion.

(BBC)
Continue Reading...



(CNN) Continue Reading...



De-extinction company claims it has nearly complete thylacine genome



The genome of the extinct thylacine has been nearly completely sequenced, de-extinction company Colossal has announced. It says the genome is more than 99.9 per cent complete, with just 45 gaps that will soon be closed – but it has provided no evidence to back up its claim.

(NewScientist)
Continue Reading...



(The Guardian)
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(stock.adobe.com)

#### Medicare vs. Medicare Advantage: sales pitches are often from biased sources



The decision is complicated. Medicare has an enormous variety of coverage options, with large and varying implications for people's health and finances, both as beneficiaries and taxpayers. And the decision is consequential – some choices lock beneficiaries out of traditional Medicare.

(The Conversation) Continue Reading...

## Chinese Air Fryers May Be Spying on Consumers

A consumer rights group has warned UK shoppers to research their next electronics purchases carefully, after finding evidence of "excessive smart device surveillance" from Chinese air fryers and other products.

Which? claimed that smart air fryers from Xiaomi, Cosori and Aigostar all wanted to know customers' precise locations, as well as permission to record audio on the user's phone.

The Xiaomi app linked to the smart device also connected to ad trackers from Facebook, TikTok's Pangle ad network and Tencent, depending on the location of said user, the report claimed.

It also said that Aigostar wanted to know the gender and date of birth of the owner when setting up an owner account, and that both it and Xiaomi sent personal user data back to servers in China.

(Infosecurity Magazine)

Continue Reading..



















### Scams

A CNN investigation reveals how deceptive political fundraising has misled elderly Americans into giving away millions of dollars

More than 1,000 reports filed with government agencies and consumer advocacy groups reviewed by CNN, along with an analysis of campaign finance data and interviews with dozens of contributors and their family members, show how deceptive political fundraisers have victimized hundreds of elderly Americans and misled those battling dementia or other cognitive impairments into giving away millions of dollars — far more than they ever intended. Some unintentionally joined the ranks of the top grassroots political donors in the country as they tapped into retirement savings and went into debt, contributing six-figure sums through thousands of transactions.

> Continue Reading... (CNN)

AI helped the feds catch \$1 billion of fraud in one year. And it's just getting started



The federal government's bet on using artificial intelligence to fight financial crime appears to be paying off.

Machine learning AI helped the US Treasury Department to sift through massive amounts of data and recover \$1 billion worth of check fraud in fiscal 2024 alone, according to new estimates shared first with CNN. That's nearly triple what the Treasury recovered in the prior fiscal year.

"It's really been transformative," Renata Miskell, a top Treasury official, told CNN in a phone interview.

Continue Reading...



















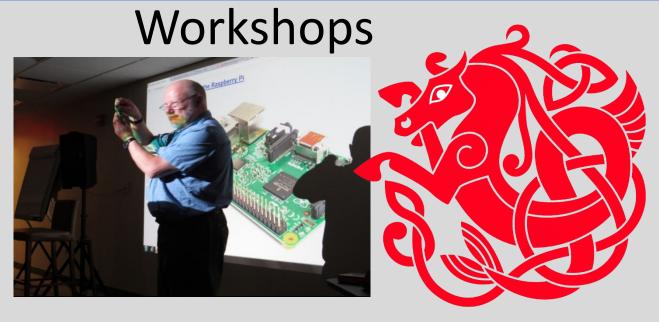








Sources



#### **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



























### 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.

Continue Reading.













### 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 of computers come from her.













#### Marvelous Quotes by Kurt Vonnegut

"Dogs are better than human beings because they know but do not tell." – Emily Dickinson "The better I get to know men, the more I find myself loving dogs." – Charles de Gaulle "Every dog must have his day." – Jonathon Swift



he only creatures that are evolved enough to convey pure love are dogs and infants." – Johnny Depp

"Once you have had a wonderful dog, a life without one is a life diminished." – Dean Koontz "Happiness is a warm puppy." – Charles M. Schulz

"Some of my best leading men have been dogs and horses." - Elizabeth Taylor

"If a dog will not come to you after having looked you in the face, you should go home and examine your conscience." – Woodrow Wilson

"There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face." - Ben Williams

"Dogs got personality. Personality goes a long way." — Quentin Tarantino

"It is naught good a sleeping hound to wake." - Chaucer

"Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot little puppies." – Gene Hill

"Such short little lives our pets have to spend with us, and they spend most of it waiting for us to come home each day. It is amazing how much love and laughter they bring into our lives and even how much closer we become with each other because of them." – John Grogan



o matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich." – Louis Sabin

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself." – Josh Billings (a.k.a. Henry Wheeler Shaw)

"I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source." – Doris Day

"A dog is the only thing that can mend a crack in your broken heart" – Judy Desmond

"Dogs' lives are too short. Their only fault, really." - Agnes Sligh Turnbull

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole." – Roger Caras



've seen a look in dogs' eyes, a quickly vanishing look of amazed contempt, and I am convinced that dogs think humans are nuts." – John Steinbeck

"Everyone thinks they have the best dog. And none of them are wrong." – W.R. Purche "Dogs are our link to paradise." – Milan Kundera

"Dogs do speak, but only to those who know how to listen." – Orhan Pamuk

"When the Man waked up he said, 'What is Wild Dog doing here?' And the Woman said, 'His name is not Wild Dog any more, but the First Friend, because he will be our friend for always and always and always." — Rudyard Kipling

"Handle every situation like a dog. If you can't eat it or play with it, just pee on it and walk away." – Author Unknown



















Articles

Workshops

**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** 





**BBC News** 



Reuters



ScienceDaily



**NY Times** 



SciTechDaily



How-to Geek



Foreign



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.

















**Dashboards** 







Tornado Tracker Map



**NowCoast** 



Weather & Hazards



Severe Weather



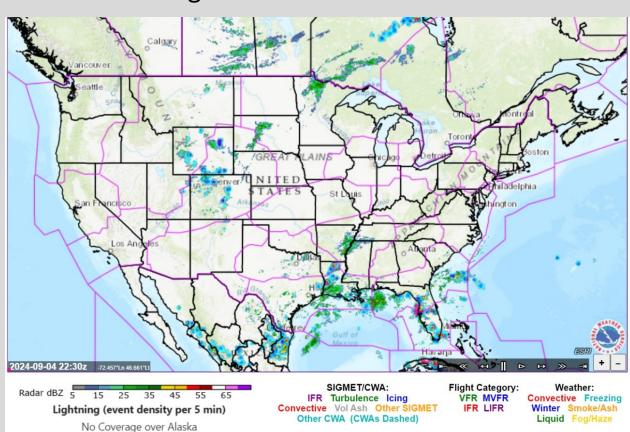
Data Viewer



Open-Source **Power Outage** 



**National Water Prediction Service** 



Thank You MJ















te Jo

# Encyclopedias and Reference Books



'They get to read the first page for free, but if they don't subscribe the rest appears in Latin.' Knowledge Encyclopedia



Encyclopedia Of World History



Encyclopedia of Philosophy



Art That Changed The World



The Aircraft Book



Encyclopedia of Ottoman Empire



Encyclopedia Of Rocks, Minerals And Gemstones



Great Maps The World Explored And Explained



Encyclopedia of The Ancient Greek World

























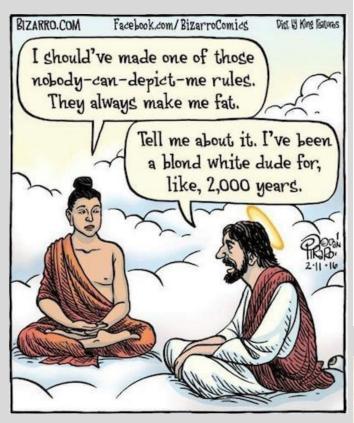


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### The Funnies

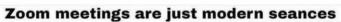














- "There's someone who wants to join us."
  "Elizabeth, are you there?"
  "We can't hear you."
  "Can you hear us?"







