

• **CENTRAL KENTUCKY COMPUTER SOCIETY** •



WE ARE OPEN — ONLINE!

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NOVEMBER

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**Official Newsletter of the Central Kentucky Computer Society, Inc.©
CKCS Resource Center, 160 Moore Drive, Suite 107, Lexington, Ky. 40503
(859) 373-1000 • ckcs.org**

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• Since 1984, Empowering CKCS Members With Tech Skills •

What's all the noise about 5G cell phones?

Sure, they can be much faster but it's still an evolving technology

By Kurt Jefferson

Should you rush out and buy a new 5G cell phone? Most experts would say it all depends. “The 5G landscape is constantly shifting and will continue to do so well into next year,” writes Tom’s Guide in its pick of the best 5G cell phones.

“If you can get a 5G signal where you're at, you'll likely see improved performance over LTE (aka 4G) networks — provided you've got one of the best 5G phones. But even with an uptick in speed, the 5G experience isn't all that different from LTE at this point.”

And that is the point. A 5G signal is the fifth generation of cell phone communication standards which may eventually let you download full-length movies in seconds. But we're not quite there yet. 5G service is still being introduced to many of us.

You must be using a phone made to use 5G signals. The average iPhone or Android phone isn't made for that. Secondly, the big four cell phone carriers are still rolling out 5G signals. So there are plenty of spots in America where 5G is not yet available. As Tom’s Guide explains, “5G is already here, but unless the stars of your location, the wireless carrier you subscribe to and the smartphone you own are perfectly aligned, you probably can't use it yet.”

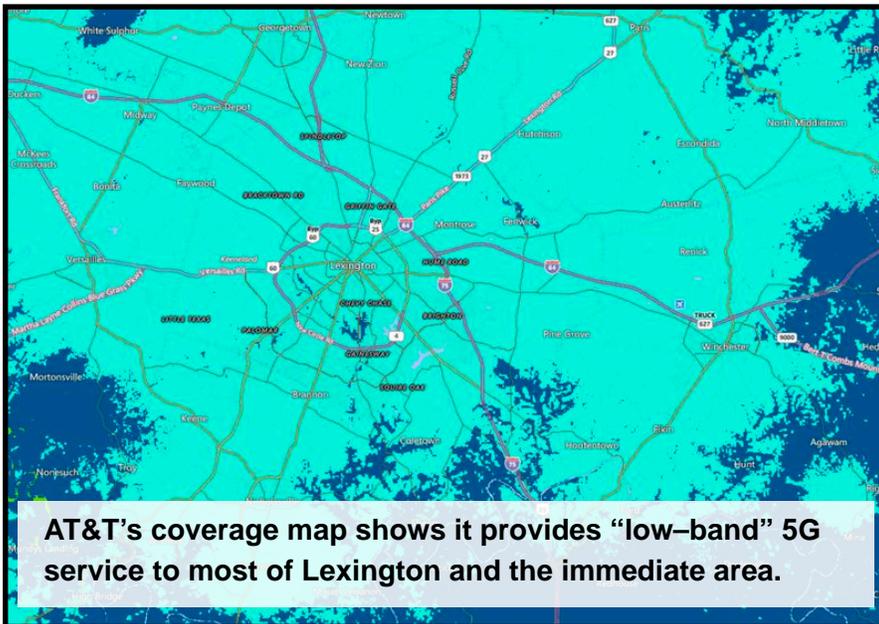
T-Mobile was the first cellphone carrier to offer 5G signals in all 50 states. Its coverage map shows that much of Lexington is covered by T-Mobile 5G service.

Verizon’s coverage map shows that most of Lexington is covered by 5G service, but this can be misleading. “5G Ultra Wideband” is not yet available here. That’s the ultimate speed that most people want.

Verizon describes it this way: “Think of 5G Ultra Wideband like an incredibly wide, superfast highway, with millions of trucks traveling inches apart from one another at breakneck speeds. The ultrafast speeds and reduced lag time (latency) can provide smartphones with new capabilities for activities like multi-player gaming on the go, streaming 4K2 movies and video chatting in HD.”

Instead, Verizon’s coverage area in Lexington and many cities in the U.S. includes what the company calls “5G Nationwide.” This allows 5G service to run at the same time with 4G LTE on different bandwidths. What this means is Verizon customers who aren't able to get 5G Ultra Wideband will stay on the 5G network at slower speeds.

Since T-Mobile acquired Sprint in a \$26-billion dollar merger, Sprint customers now use the T-mobile network.



AT&T's coverage map shows it provides “low-band” 5G service to most of Lexington and the immediate area.

5G service will not only change cell phone usage. It will also change the way we get home and business Internet service. 5G will be able to deliver high-speed Internet service through a direct wireless connection. 5G Internet is really fast – with a minimum potential of 20 Gbps (more than ten times faster than 4G.) In addition computers, tablets, phones, game stations, and other devices will see very low latency rates.

This means users should not have to deal with congestion, video buffering, random disconnects, and other bandwidth issues that quite a few Internet users encounter today.

Once again, companies have to update their infrastructure in order to offer 5G Internet. The big cell carriers are adding new locations to their networks every few months.

So – stay tuned. As the old Carpenters song goes: *We've only just begun.*



AT&T is currently providing low-band 5G signals to much of Lexington. Type in your zip code and see if service is available in your neighborhood. (AT&T offers what it calls 5G+ service in 35 cities. 395 cities receive low-band 5G service.)

Buying a new iPhone? Which one should you pick?

By Kurt Jefferson

Should you rush out and buy the newest iPhone 12 or the iPhone 12 Pro? How about the iPhone 12 Max? Or the iPhone 12 mini?

What's the difference? If you're in the market for the newest iPhone, you owe yourself to read [Tom Guide's article](#) on the phones. It digs into the nitty-gritty to give you an excellent overview so you can compare one phone with another.

You'll also read that Apple is introducing the iPhone 12 in two stages. The 6.1-inch iPhone 12 and iPhone 12 Pro were introduced on October 23.

The 5.4-inch iPhone 12 mini and 6.7-inch iPhone 12 Pro Max arrives November 13. Tom's Guide also points out that the new mini is the most affordable of Apple's new iPhones, starting at \$699 for 64GB of storage. If you opt for the larger iPhone 12 with 64 GB, you'll pay \$799. You are basically paying for a bigger screen. You can also get 128 GB or 256 GB of storage.

If you opt for the iPhone 12 Pro, you'll pay \$999 for the 128 GB model. The larger iPhone 12 Pro Max starts at \$1,099 for 128 GB, 256 GB and 512 GB models are also available.

The next decision is where to buy your new phone. Do you make an appointment to buy it at the Apple Store in Fayette Mall? Do you buy from Apple's website? Or do you buy from one of the major cell phone carriers – Verizon, AT&T, or T-Mobile (Sprint merged with T-Mobile)?

I recently bought a new iPhone SE (the least expensive iPhone) from Consumer Cellular and was very pleased with the experience. The company has been in business for 25 years and has won awards for its customer service. (Note: This is my opinion. CKCS does not endorse any products, cell phone sellers, or cell phone carriers.)



The screenshot shows the Tom's Guide website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'tom's guide' logo, 'US Edition', social media icons, and a search bar. Below that, a secondary navigation bar includes 'Best Picks', 'News', 'Reviews', 'Phones', 'TVs', 'Security', and 'More'. A 'TRENDING' section lists 'iPhone 12', 'PSS', 'Black Friday', 'Google Pixel 5', and 'OnePlus 8T'. The main article title is 'iPhone 12 mini vs iPhone 12 vs iPhone 12 Pro vs iPhone 12 Pro Max: What's different?' by Mark Spoonauer, dated 'a day ago'. Below the title is a sub-headline: 'Which new iPhone is right for you? Here's how all four models compare.' There are social media sharing icons and a 'Comments (1)' link. A large image shows two iPhones: a blue one and a green one. Below the image is a caption: '(Image credit: Apple)'. To the right of the article is a 'BE IN THE KNOW' sidebar with a sign-up form for email newsletters. At the bottom right, there's a 'tom's guide' logo and a 'CLOSE' button. Below the main article, there's a small snippet of another article: '2 iPad Air 4 pre-orders are live: How to get yours now'.

Tom's Guide provides an excellent overview if you're thinking about buying one of the new iPhone 12 models. Do your homework and get the right model for you. Storage space, screen size, color, and how much you want to pay are all considerations. In addition, decide where you want to buy your next phone – which seller provides the best experience for you.

What if you're looking for an iPhone 11, XR, or SE? [CNBC provides a great comparison check](#) to help you decide. CNBC points out, "I think the iPhone 12 is going to be the iPhone for most people this year...it supports all the 5G networks you may need in the future, wireless charging and more." You can also learn plenty from PCMag's piece, "[Should You Upgrade to the iPhone 12?](#)" The article notes, "It's not only Apple's first major upgrade since the iPhone X, the iPhone 12 also marks the company's first lineup of 5G phones. With such a big change, you're likely asking yourself if it's time to upgrade. The answer is: it depends..."

Also, be sure to read The Wirecutter's piece: [Which iPhone should I get?](#)

Huge milestone: Apple hits one-billion mark; That many iPhones are in active use.

Stop the presses. While reading the Apple News app on the iPad a few days before Halloween, I stumbled upon an article that made me stop in my tracks.

The tech website, 9to5 Mac, was reporting, “An analyst with an excellent Apple track record estimates that the company last month achieved a milestone of a billion iPhones in active use. Neil Cybart also says that he doesn’t believe Apple has yet hit peak iPhone sales, despite the company’s decision to cease reporting the numbers...”

Holy Toledo. Okay. I’ve never been to Toledo. But a billion iPhones? If you stacked a billion iPhones one on top of each other, how tall of a skyscraper could you create?

Cybart adds, “Thirteen years after going on sale, the iPhone remains the perennial most popular and best-selling smartphone.”

The article mentions the speculation was that Apple had stopped reporting unit sales because iPhone sales had peaked. Cybart says that’s true because iPhone sales were falling at the time, but he claims Apple made the decision at the time because the market was failing to understand *the impact of longer upgrade cycles*.

In other words, many, many people are still buying iPhones. They are just holding on to their older models longer. Translation: They are not upgrading to a newer iPhone model as quickly as they used to.

I’m sure the craziness of the current world – the seemingly never-ending Coronavirus pandemic, the awful loss of life due to the pandemic, the sheer numbers of folks who have been sickened, the loss of millions of jobs, the many businesses that have been forced to close due to the pandemic, the never-ending U.S. presidential election, the never-ending election of U.S. senators and representatives, and other factors have all impacted iPhone sales.

Cybart says, “...A longer upgrade cycle can be a leading factor behind declining unit sales. In addition, unit sales don’t say anything about customer loyalty and satisfaction rates, which are crucial when it comes to a customer’s decision to continue using a product.”

The bottom line? The analyst says the percentage of overall iPhone sales to new users has steadily declined. *Instead, the iPhone business, he says, has become an upgrading business.* Still, Apple is still selling 20 to 30-million iPhones to new users every year.

But many more shoppers in the Apple Store or at the local cell phone shop or buying online are upgrading. They’re buying a new iPhone to replace an old model.

But a billion iPhones is truly a remarkable feat.



Apple hit a billion iPhones last month, says reliable analyst

Ben Lovejoy – Oct. 27th 2020 6:59 am UTC

An analyst with an excellent [Apple track record](#) estimates that the company last month achieved a milestone of a billion iPhones in active use.

Neil Cybart also says that he doesn’t believe Apple has yet hit peak iPhone sales, despite the company’s decision to cease reporting the numbers...

Cybart made his case in an [Above Avalon](#) blog post.

A billion people now have iPhones. According to my estimate, Apple passed the billion iPhone users milestone last month. Thirteen years after going on sale, the iPhone remains the perennial most popular and best-selling smartphone.

There had been speculation that Apple’s 2018 decision to [stop reporting unit sales](#) was because iPhone sales had peaked. Cybart says that it’s true that sales were declining at the time, but he says Apple likely made the decision because the market was misunderstanding the impact of longer upgrade cycles.

This 9to5 Mac article I spotted while reading the news in the Apple News app on my iPad nearly made me spill my bowl of broccoli at lunchtime.

Need a new Android cell phone? Here are some top picks

By Kurt Jefferson

In the market for a new Android phone? When it comes to phones running the Android operating system, how do you decide between the really good and not so great handsets?

One way is to check out Android Central. That website has just updated its listings of what it considers to be [“The best android phones at a glance.”](#)

So this is not some website reviewing old phones that are outdated and lackluster because they’ve been replaced by newer models.

After eyeing dozens of models, these are the phones Android Central believes are the cream of the crop.

Drum roll, please.

Best Overall: Samsung Galaxy S20 FE (For less money than you might expect, Android Central labels this a “fully fledged flagship smartphone.” It adds this phone is not “the absolute most premium Android phone you can buy in 2020, but when looking at the specs and features it offers for the price, it's easily the best phone most people should buy.”)



Best Premium: OnePlus 8 Pro (Android Central claims this phone is “every bit as good as the S20 FE, though it steps up to better cameras, a nicer design, and faster wireless charging.”)

Best Value: If getting the most for your money is by far the biggest factor, then go for the Google Pixel 4a. “No other phone gives you this much for so little,” writes Android Central. It likes the camera, the fast performance, reliable battery life, and more.

Best on a Budget: Moto G Power (“For a lot of people, the best Android phone is the one that runs all of their apps and games, keeps them connected with loved ones, and does so while costing as little as possible,” writes Android Central. If that describes you, then this might be your phone.

Best Ultra Premium: Samsung Galaxy Note 20 Ultra (If you’re looking for “top of the line performance, a huge display that looks outstanding,” and even an S pen you can use to draw and take notes, then this might be your phone pick.)

Best Camera: Google Pixel 5 (If you live, breathe and love taking photos then this is your Android pick. Its camera might be its best feature. Android Central writes that this phone, “takes incredible photos in virtually any setting and thanks to the company’s top-notch image processing, you don’t even have to be a pro photographer to get impressive shots.”)

There’s not space here to include all of Android Central’s picks so check out the [website](#) for other highly rated cell phones.

As a sneak peek, Android Central also picks its favorites in these categories:

- Best 5G Value
- Best for International Buyers
- Best Samsung Alternative
- Best for Video
- Best under \$200
- Best Foldable



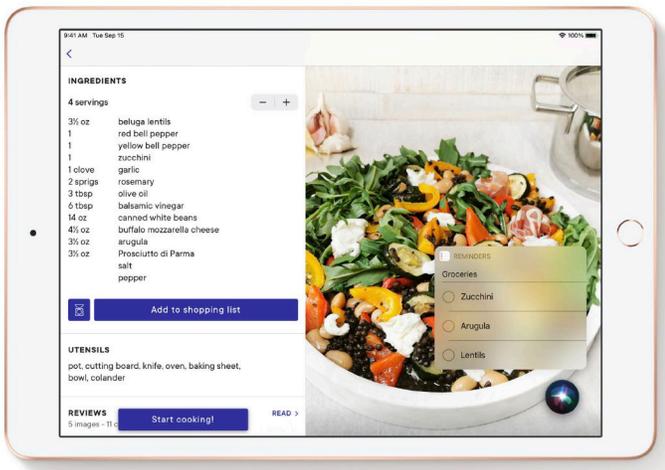
android 

**THE MUST-HAVE
TECH ITEM OF
THE PANDEMIC:
—
THE IPAD**

**iPad sales climbed by 31% as
of mid-summer and demand
for the popular tablet isn't
slowing down**

By Kurt Jefferson

It seems the one tech item that just keeps selling ever since the pandemic forced all of us inside is one you may not have thought about – Apple’s versatile iPad tablet.



The *New York Times* headlined a story late last spring: **Why Apple’s iPad is the gadget of the pandemic.**

In July, Apple’s CEO was taken aback by sales of both the iPad (sales up 31%) and its Mac computers (sales up 21%).

CRN reported: “Demand for Apple’s Mac and iPad product lines is powering unexpectedly strong growth for the company, with no immediate end in sight as widespread remote work and education continues, Apple disclosed in its quarterly financial report Thursday.”

Apple’s notebooks and even desktop computers are selling at a very quick clip, but it’s the iPad that is taking center stage. *Sales of the tablet are the highest in eight years.*

This begs the question: What in the world is going on here?

What is it about this device that is luring new buyers, convincing owners of older models to upgrade, and leaving some online sellers’ shelves empty?

It’s a major boost for a device that some consider the “Rodney Dangerfield” of tech devices.

In other words, the iPad sometimes doesn’t get a lot of respect. The *Times* reported, “The iPad, which always seemed like an optional accessory sitting between your computer and smartphone, has long been treated as that “other” device. Now it’s time for us to reconsider that “other” device.”

That “other” device is now being taken quite seriously by parents, students, teachers, businessmen and businesswomen, doctors, lawyers, artists, architects, ad agencies, ministers, and plenty of others.

The *Times* says here’s why: **The iPad hits the sweet spot. And it does it very well.** Nick Guy, who tests products for The Wirecutter, the product review website owned by *The Times* put it this way, “It’s really in that sweet spot of being relatively affordable and having everything I think most people will need.”

Let me admit something to you. I haven’t owned a laptop in years. That’s right. My iPad is my laptop. No, I wouldn’t give up my Mac desktop for anything. I use it every single day — more than my car. I do everything on the Mac. But the iPad is just as indispensable. I do everything on the iPad. I use it every day. And because it works so well, I understand what all the noise is about. *The iPad is the gadget of the pandemic.*

TECH FIX

Why Apple’s iPad Is the Gadget of the Pandemic

Shelter-in-place orders have transformed the tablet computer from a superfluous device into a must-have.



Apple’s \$329 iPad, attached to a keyboard, has long been treated as the “other” gadget. Jim Wilson/The New York Times

The New York Times article discusses the iPad’s popularity.



By Brian X. Chen

Dr. FixIt returns

By Mike Seiler

Dr. FixIt resumes "meeting" on the first Saturday of the month, beginning on Saturday, November 7. The new format for these meetings will use a program built into Windows 10, allowing one to take control of another person's computer from a remote location.

Instead of using distance learning like the schools, we will be using distance troubleshooting.



There will be some restrictions for anyone participating in these remote Dr. FixIt's:

- **You are a current member of CKCS**
- **Your computer has Windows 10 installed**
- **You have internet access**

To participate, call CKCS (859-373-1000) on Saturday, November 7, before 9:30 am and leave a message stating you are interested in DrFixIt.

Please tell us your name (spell it) and a phone number where we can reach you. We will contact everyone in the order in which they left a message at CKCS. It will be helpful if you have a phone that you can put on speakerphone.

When we call you, we expect you to be logged into your computer and have a list of questions to ask us. We will walk you through the steps needed for us to take control of your computer. Also, we expect you to stay on the phone the whole time we are working with you.

If you do not answer the phone when we call, we will place your name at the bottom of the call list. No one will be helped at CKCS. We expect everyone to be at their homes with their computer when they are called for their turn to be helped.

We are not sure how this is going to work, but we wanted to try it.

Please be patient with us in our first attempt to revive Dr. FixIt during the pandemic.

iHelp returns

By Kurt Jefferson

If you need help with your iPhone, iPad, Mac, or iPod touch, we want to help.

CKCS volunteers will resume their troubleshooting efforts on Apple products – **using the Zoom app** – on **Saturday, November 7 from 10 A.M. to noon.**



No one will be helped at the CKCS Resource Center. Instead, we will attempt to resolve problems with your device using Zoom. Install Zoom on a separate device so you can see us while we help troubleshoot your issue with your iPhone, iPad, Mac or iPod touch.



How do I participate? You need to email us on the morning of Nov. 7 at ckcsihelp@gmail.com in order to participate. Assistance will be provided in the order received.



What do I include in the email message?

Your name, your phone number, the device you want us to troubleshoot and the specific problem or question you need solved. Please be SPECIFIC. We expect you to be ready when you log into Zoom with your questions.

How do I connect with Zoom? We will email you the Zoom link when it is your turn. You will click or tap on that link to open the Zoom app.

How much time do I get? We will provide up to 25 minutes of assistance to make sure we help everyone who has requested help. The iHelp Zoom session will run from 10 A.M. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 7.

You need high-speed broadband Internet to use Zoom.

This is a trial session to see how well it works. If it's successful, we anticipate future iHelp Zoom sessions on the first Saturday of each month until we resume in-person troubleshooting at the CKCS Resource Center. Please be patient since there will no doubt be rough spots as we try and help folks using Zoom during this pandemic.

Tech for Seniors
(on Zoom):
MONDAYS @ NOON (EDT)

Ron Brown, the retired flight surgeon, who has tackled ‘wearable technology’ at two CKCS Tech Nights, is co-hosting Zoom sessions on Mondays for older computer users.



Ron Brown co-hosts Monday morning ‘Tech for Seniors’ sessions using the Zoom app. There are currently nearly three dozen YouTube videos available from prior Monday sessions. Those videos are available to view [here](#).

1		Episode 1 Tech for Seniors March 30- 2020 Ronald Brown
2		Episode 2 - Tech for Seniors -April 6 2020 Ronald Brown
3		Episode 3 - Tech for Seniors -- April 13, 2020 Ronald Brown
4		Episode 4 Tech for Seniors April 20, 2020 Ronald Brown
5		Episode 5 Tech for Seniors April 27 2020 Ronald Brown
6		Episode 6 - Tech for Seniors May 4 - 2020 Ronald Brown
7		Episode 7 - Tech for Seniors May 11 - 2020 Ronald Brown

The hour-long sessions are called Tech For Seniors and they address many different topics ranging from using Zoom to audio-books, getting groceries delivered by Amazon Fresh, availability of fast Internet service, music files, APCUG (CKCS is a member) and much more information presented in a fun way.

The live Zoom sessions run from noon to 1 P.M. (EDT). Silvercom Computer and Technology Club at Silverridge Resort in Mesa, Arizona sponsor the discussions.

Brown and his co-host, Hewie Poplock, talk technology, answer your questions and socialize during the one-hour sessions. Join them on Mondays at noon, (EDT).

A small portion of the recorded Zoom sessions available from the Tech for Seniors [website](#). There are currently 33 archived YouTube clips available for you to watch free.



Tech for Seniors
Hosted by Ron Brown & Hewie Poplock

Sponsored by the
Silvercom Computer and Technology Club

<https://sctc.myclubcircle.com/Page15>

BUSY, BUSY, BUSY. GET INVOLVED IN FREE COMPUTER CONFERENCES FROM APCUG

We've all heard this expression from teenagers: "I'm bored!"

As an adult, you have no excuse. Over the next two months, you have the chance to learn about:



**An International
Association of Technology
& Computer User Groups**

- **Navigating the post-COVID era** (Nov. 7 at 1 P.M., Eastern Time)
- **Staying safe & secure** – Using the right apps can help keep you safe and secure and reduce your privacy exposure. (Nov. 7 at 2 P.M., Eastern Time)
- **How tech has changed how we listen to music** (Nov. 7 at 1 P.M., Eastern Time)
- **Using Google Photos** (Nov. 7 at 2 P.M., Eastern Time)
- **APCUG Annual Meeting** (Nov 7 at 3:15 P.M., Eastern Time)
- **Home automation** – Lights, doorbells, locks & cameras (Nov. 11 at Noon, Eastern Time)
- **Linux** – Getting & installing Linux on your PC (Nov. 18 at Noon, Eastern Time)
- **Linux** – Distros & Desktops (Dec. 2 at Noon, Eastern Time)
- **Home automation** – Doing it myself vs. Having it done (Dec. 9 at Noon, Eastern Time)
- **Linux** – Software, Apps, & package management (Dec. 16 at Noon, Eastern Time)

Have I gotten your attention? Did I mention the conferences above are free? Is broccoli good for your health? (Okay. Forget that last sentence.)

The group, APCUG, of which CKCS is a member, is holding the conferences and *you are invited*. (Notice the group's logo at the top of the page.)

You're hopefully asking yourself: How do I get involved? How do I register?

You need to register [here](#). **You MUST register by 11:30 P.M., (Eastern Time) Nov. 6.**

- You need Zoom installed on your PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android tablet or phone to take part.
- APCUG is holding free sessions shown at the left during what it calls a VTC: Virtual Technology Conference. It's on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 1–3 P.M. (Eastern Time).
- **The APCUG annual meeting is Nov 7 at 3:15 P.M. (Eastern Time). You're welcome to attend.**
- *Before the Nov. 7 events – after you register – you will get an email with directions and links for attending "Navigating the Post-COVID era," "Staying Safe & Secure," "Google Photos" and the Annual Meeting. The links are encrypted, please do not share them with anyone.*
- Nov. 7 sessions last 50 minutes with time for questions and answers.

Again, you register online – you don't need what's called an Eventbrite or eTicket account to attend the conference. You don't need a Zoom account, but you do need Zoom installed on your device.

On Nov. 7, after connecting via Zoom, it is very helpful if you sign into each presentation you attend via the Chat Box; use your first and last name you used to register at Eventbrite.

Why? If all of the questions aren't answered during the session, the rest of the answers will be sent to you. Or, there might be a handout.



More conferences are scheduled later this month and in December. (See the schedule in yellow on the left-hand side of this page for dates and times.)

President's Comments

By Brooke Thomas

Listen closely. **That's the sound of November buzzing with CKCS events.** Get involved. Join us. **We need you!** You will learn a lot. Let me add – you'll also have fun. We've heard from plenty of you. So here it is — **On Nov. 7 (the first Saturday of the month) we are going to bring back Dr. Fixit and iHelp.** Virtually. The Coronavirus pandemic just will not relent, so we are trying something different. Check out the articles (pg. 7) in this newsletter to see how you can get involved.



Brooke Thomas
president@ckcs.org

Nearly everyone uses a word processor. Make your documents look better and learn plenty from **Jerry Heaton's word processing SIG**, on a special day this month because of the Nov. election (Nov 17).

Be sure to catch **Paul Stackhouse's presentation at Tech Night** on Monday, November 9. He will cut to the nitty-gritty and show you the "right" way to do a web search.

On Tuesday, November 10, **join Mike Seiler at the Windows 10 Special Interest Group.** There is so much to learn about this operating system because it is continually evolving, much to Mike's chagrin. :)

If you are into Apple products **don't miss Kurt Jefferson's Mac/iPad SIG** on Thursday, November 12. He always shares a wealth of information about these devices. No matter what, you will learn.

On Tuesday, November 24, **Joe Dietz hosts the Digital Imaging SIG.** Each month there is a photo contest. If you're in to photos, check out the latest topic in this newsletter and enter your best photos!

All these programs are presented via Zoom. You can get the links in this newsletter, on the CKCS Website under the meetings tab, and in the Weekly email "Next week at your computer society". We have had glitches from time to time with the Zoom links. **Be sure you are clicking on the correct one because they are all unique. If the one in the newsletter isn't working for you then go to one of the other sources and try it.** *This whole Zoom thing has been a learning experience for all of us!* In addition to all these programs, we are a member of an international technology users group, APCUG. This allows us access to their quarterly virtual conferences. This quarter the virtual conference will be held on Saturday, November 7. Unlike our SIGs, you will have to register for it. Look for the details in this newsletter (pg. 9).

Before I leave you, I want to emphasize this: **Don't forget to VOTE if you haven't already done so. It is important.**

Nov. Tech Night

WEB SEARCHES

By Brooke Thomas

Frustrated by your web searches? Overwhelmed by Google?

If Google, DuckDuck Go, Bing, Yahoo and other search tools are forcing you to scream, relief might be on the way. **Join us for November's Tech Night.**

How in the world are you supposed to successfully do a Web search when you get 4,600,000 results?

Is that insane, or what? If you're just overwhelmed by it all and need help with your searches, then join us **on Zoom at 7 P.M. November 9.**



Information Overload: Too many "hits," too little time. How in the world are you supposed to complete a successful web search? With Google, DuckDuck Go, Bing, Yahoo, ask.com and others, it's just overwhelming to many of us. It doesn't have to be that way.

It's been said that 99% of human knowledge can be found somewhere on the Internet. How in the world are you supposed to locate it? Telepathy? Divining rod?

Long-time CKCS member Paul Stackhouse will demonstrate straightforward techniques to focus your searches to get more usable results from common search engines.

He'll also help users determine which of the overwhelming number of web search "hits" are more likely to yield the best results (hint: it isn't always the first one).

Finally, he will reveal how to turn Google's search loose on any other web pages to harness its toolbox against the most obstinate site.

If you are a regular attendee of Tech Night, you will remember Paul Stackhouse from several presentations on how to cut the cable cord, how to stream, and most recently using Gmail.

Over the years Paul has held several offices within CKCS: president, vice-president, treasurer, and director. His service goes back to within six months of the forming of Central Kentucky Computer Society in the mid-80's.

Join us at 7 P.M. on Nov. 9 via Zoom.

CKCS Zoom Links

Join us for the following November Zoom sessions on your PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, Android phone or tablet or other device that will run the Zoom application:

- Tech Night**
Nov. 9 at 7 P.M.
 Zoom link to join:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82109235232>
- Word Processing SIG**
Nov. 17 at 7 P.M.
 Zoom link to join:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83030906264>
- Amateur Photographer's Club SIG**
Every Thursday in Nov. at 10 A.M.
 Zoom link to join:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89234995079>
- Windows 10 SIG**
Nov. 10 at 7 P.M.
 Zoom link to join:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82811157647>
- Mac/iPad SIG**
Nov. 12 at 7 P.M.
 Zoom link to join:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89152197881>



- Digital Photography SIG**

Nov. 24 at 7 P.M.
 Zoom link to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82232057510>

Zoom links for CKCS classes and workshops will be emailed to students.

Zoom for Windows and Mac can be downloaded from the Zoom Download Center [here](#).

The latest Zoom version available for desktops is 5.4.1.

If you need Zoom for your iPad or iPhone, it's available from the App Store.

Zoom is also available for Android phones and tablets through Google Play.

Get More Out of Your Zoom Meetings is available [here](#).

ZDNet has created a *Complete Zoom Guide: From Basic Help to Advanced Tricks* found [here](#).



Did you get my fax?

By Kurt Jefferson

Remember that magical machine of the 1980's called the fax machine? The formal name was "facsimile," but everybody called them "fax."

They were as commonplace as smartphones are today. Operations as diverse as schools, Fortune 500 companies and sheriff's offices, to radio, newspapers, and TV stations all embraced them. Many Americans even had them in their homes (Some still do.)

But one country in particular embraced the fax: Japan. In fact, the fax machine was embedded into Japanese culture by the late 1970's – before they became ubiquitous in the U.S.

Reports show that 81% of all Japanese convenience stores still provide fax machine services to their customers.

The Washington Post recently reported on "Two Japans." The nation admired for its bullet trains and humanoid robots still relies on – you guessed it – the fax machine. You can still hear fax machines humming throughout Japan as the coated paper slowly inches its way out of the machine

and into the receiving tray.

Fax machines are so much a part of the Japanese culture that the country still relies on them to capture accurate Covid-19 infection rates.

And that's where problems began. As the *Post* reports, "So when the government tried to switch to a system of digital reporting of coronavirus cases by computer this year, the effort soon ran aground. Many hospitals and health centers were unable or unwilling to abandon faxes and move reporting online."

The fax also kept many Japanese from working entirely at home when the Covid-19 pandemic first erupted. The *Post* reports 60% of workers complained they had to go into the office to check printouts or get a document stamped.

Japan's new prime minister hopes to propel his country into the 21st century by setting up a new agency to digitize the bureaucracy and the entire culture. It won't be an easy task. Fax machines are still everywhere in Japan. Even now, as you read this, you can hear the ever-present humming of the fax in Japan.

November classes & workshops

2020 FALL **CLASSES** (USING ZOOM)

Class	Dates	Times	Overview
<p>Getting the Most out of Your iPhone</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Class and Workshop listings have been updated to show <i>only the remaining sessions this year.</i></p> </div>	<p>Tues., Nov. 3, 10, 17</p>	<p>1 to 3 P.M.</p>	<p>Learn important (and hidden) functions of your iPhone. Learn how to download apps, move them, nest them and delete them. Learn how to get better photos with your phone, organize your pictures, and send them in text and emails. Texting messages and using Siri will also be covered along with lots more. Participants should know their iPhone's passcode, Apple ID, and password. Participants should make sure their iPhone is updated with the latest operating system (IOS). Students should have a different device (like a computer, laptop, or iPad) to log into the ZOOM class to be able to practice the instructions on their iPhone.</p>
<p>Learning To See Creatively – Composition</p> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Cost: CKCS Members: \$40 Non-members: \$50</p> </div>	<p>Mon., Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23</p>	<p>1 to 3 P.M.</p>	<p>Learn the ingredients for a good photo. Study the elements of design, perspective, composition, lighting, and color of light. Why are some pictures more appealing than others? They follow some simple rules: A. Simplicity. B. Drawing Attention to the Subject. C. Positioning the Subject. D. Knowledge of Graphic Design for Interest and Harmony. Understanding and using these guidelines will show you how to implement this knowledge and become a better photographer.</p>

2020 FALL **WORKSHOPS** (USING ZOOM)

Workshop	Dates	Times	Overview
<p>Understanding Facebook for Windows</p>	<p>Thur., Nov. 12</p>	<p>1 to 4 P.M.</p>	<p>Learn how to maintain a Facebook page on a computer. The Profile page and Home page will be explained. How to find friends, make a post, edit, and respond to posts, prioritizing news feeds, checking privacy settings, unfriending and blocking friends, and deleting and deactivating your Facebook account are some of the features covered. Plan to participate via zoom on a device other than your desktop or laptop so you can practice the instruction on your own Facebook page that you will have open on your desktop or laptop.</p>
<p>iPhone Advanced Workshop</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Class and Workshop listings have been updated to show <i>only the remaining sessions this year.</i></p> </div>	<p>Tues., Nov. 24</p>	<p>1 to 4 P.M.</p>	<p>In this workshop we will build on iPhone techniques that students learned in "Getting the Most out of your iPhone" and "Secrets of your iPhone". After taking one or both sessions, many students have asked for more! This is it! Group text and e-mail messages, verifying backup, working with your photos, cleaning up bursts, scanning documents, blocking calls, and silencing unknown callers, get your phone to read to you, and lots more will be demonstrated.</p>



Sneak Peek: CKCS spring classes & workshops



Yes, it's much too early to register for spring classes. We wanted to give you a *sneak peek* of what's ahead – classes and workshops that you might want to take – some starting in February. **Keep watching this newsletter. We will let you know when registration opens.**

There will be much more information in the December newsletter. We anticipate registration will begin in early 2021. Use the class / workshop list below for planning purposes.

Keep an eye on future editions of this newsletter for more details. Stay tuned. Stay well. Stay informed.

Course Name	Class Dates	Time
Advanced & Independent Digital Imaging using Corel PaintShop Pro for Windows	Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 & Mar 3, 10	10 A.M. – Noon
Getting the most out of your iPad	Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 & Mar 4, 11	1–3 P.M.
How to take sharp photographs	Feb. 8, 12, 15	1–3 P.M.
Getting the most out of your iPhone	Feb. 16, 23 & Mar 2, 9, 16 & 23	1–3 P.M.
Basic Beginning Photography 101	Mar 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	1–3 P.M.
Basics every Mac user should know	Mar 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 & Apr 5	10 A.M. – Noon
Is Windows 10 driving you crazy?	Mar 16	9 A.M.–Noon
Foundations of photography – Lenses	Apr 5 & 12	1–3 P.M.
Making a Photo book using Shutterfly	Apr 6	1–4 P.M.
Using Facebook on a Windows PC	Apr 8	1–4 P.M.
Using your iPhone camera to the MAX	Apr 13	1–3 P.M.
Adventures in Photography	Apr 19, 26 & May 3, 10, 17 & 24	1–3 P.M.

**Join the Amateur Photography Club SIG
every Thursday at 10 A.M.**



You need the Zoom app to participate.

To request an invitation, email:

boone.baldwin@gmail.com



zoom

How do I get Zoom for my Windows 10 or Macintosh computer? What about iPads and Android devices?

Get the Zoom app

- **If you need the Zoom app**, you can download it [here](#) for both Windows and Mac computers.
- Click on the blue “Download” button to start downloading the app. You can also update your app by using that link. **The latest version of Zoom is 5.4.1**
- *Some Mac users may need to give their computer permission to install Zoom. You can read about that [here](#).*
- Zoom is also available for iPads, iPhones and the iPod touch from the App Store on your device.
- Android phone and tablet users may download Zoom from Google Play.





November's Word Processing SIG

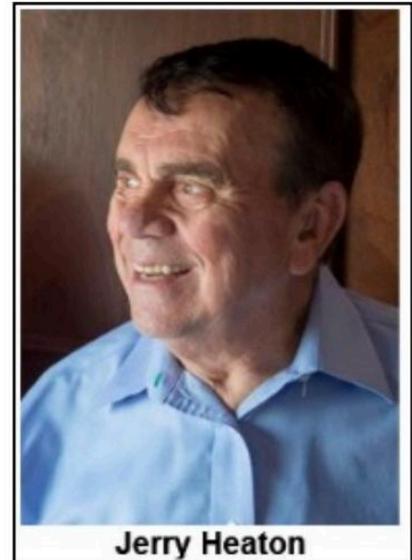
Date Change: To Avoid Election Night Results, the SIG will meet Tuesday, Nov. 17

Zoom session starts at 7 P.M.



SIG Leader Jerry Heaton will:

- Demo the best ways to add pictures to Word or your emails.
- Use MS Word to improve your photos.
- Show tips on using two or more word documents at the same time.
- Explain how word wrap works.
- Show the best ways to save your work in Word.
- Answer your questions.
- Add more if time permits.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83030906264>



zoom

We will open the Zoom door about ten minutes early so you may chat with friends while we wait.

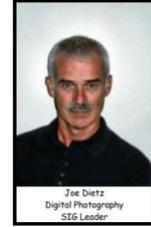
DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY SIG

ZOOMing

Digital Photography Special Interest Group

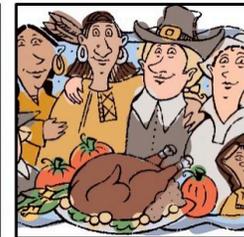
November 24, 2020

Removing Unwanted Objects From Your Photos



Learn how to remove unwanted objects from photos quickly and easily. Sometimes unwanted objects or people are unavoidable when taking a photo but with the power of PaintShop Pro it doesn't have to stay that way. Perhaps a bird flew into frame, or a stranger passed by in an otherwise picturesque background. Learn how to remove something from a photo and never let a great shot pass you by again. In this tutorial you will learn how to use a variety of tools, including Magic Fill, Smart Carver, Clone tool, Scratch Remover, Background Eraser and Blemish Fixer. Similar tools are found in many digital imaging programs.

This month's photography contest topic is "All things Thanksgiving".



Turkeys, Pumpkins, Family Get-Togethers, Autumn Leaves. Let your imagination be your guide. Check your archives or get out and about and capture some Thanksgiving Pictures.

ALSO: In preparing for next year's photo contest please send me up to five suggestions for photo topics.

Submit your images to joedietz@aol.com no later than November 23, 2020.



Zoom link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82232057510>





Digital Photography SIG Photo Contest Winners

October Topic: Fences



First Place Winner: **Pat Vaughan**



Digital Photography SIG Photo Contest Winners

October Topic: Fences



Second Place
Winner: (Tie)
Jay Hopkins



Second Place
Winner: (Tie)
**Jan Landers—
Lyman**





Windows Special Interest Group

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

7:00 pm

Mike Seiler
Windows SIG Leader



We will look at two topics at the November Windows 10 SIG. One is the Quick Access Toolbar, and the second is Windows 10's new Search Box tool. The Quick Access Toolbar can be customized to make it more efficient for you when using File Explorer. Search Box has new options for searching for items on your computer. We will look at a few of them.

The Zoom link for this meeting is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82811157647>

To receive a link for the handout for this meeting, you need to be on my mailing list. If you are not on my email list and want on it, send me an email with your name and email address to w10sig.ckcs@gmail.com



Mac/iPad SIG

SAFARI, THE WEB BROWSER, PART TWO

WE'LL SHOW YOU EVEN MORE TIPS & TRICKS

WHEN: NOV. 12 AT 7 P.M.

WHERE: VIA ZOOM

WHAT: SAFARI, THE MOST-USED
WEB BROWSER ON THE MAC, IPHONE,
IPAD AND IPOD TOUCH

JOIN US AND WE'LL DIG DEEP INTO HOW YOU CAN
GET EVEN MORE OUT OF YOUR FAVORITE BROWSER

ZOOM LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89152197881>



November 2020 CKCS Special Interest Group (SIG) Schedule

Larry Trivette prepared the SIG calendar. Print this page for your refrigerator or bulletin board.

**Our Resource Center on Moore Drive is closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Join us ONLINE for selected SIG meetings.**

- **Zoom Meetings:** Click the hyperlink in your invitation email to join the meeting.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Nov	3 Nov	4 Nov	5 Nov	6 Nov	7 Nov
			10 a.m. Photographers Club via Zoom		10 a.m. Dr. Fix-It via Remote Access iHelp & Android Help via Zoom See CKCS newsletter for instructions
			7 p.m. Board of Directors via Zoom		
9 Nov	10 Nov	11 Nov	12 Nov	13 Nov	14 Nov
7 p.m. Tech Night Paul Stackhouse – Effective Searching: How do I find that on the internet? via Zoom	7 p.m. Windows 10 MIKE SEILER via Zoom		10 a.m. Photographers Club via Zoom		
			7 p.m. Mac & iPad KURT JEFFERSON via Zoom		
16 Nov	17 Nov	18 Nov	19 Nov	20 Nov	21 Nov
	7 p.m. Word Processing JERRY HEATON New Date This Month Only via Zoom		10 a.m. Photographers Club via Zoom		
23 Nov	24 Nov	25 Nov	26 Nov	27 Nov	28 Nov
	7 p.m. Digital Photography JOE DIETZ via Zoom		10 a.m. Photographers Club via Zoom		
			No meeting this Thanksgiving		

Winter weather is coming. Are you prepared?

If I had to rank the seasons in order, winter would come in fifth place. Okay, I'm joking. But not by much.

Ever since I was a youngster, I cared little for snow. I cared even less for ice. And I cared least of all for freezing and sub-freezing temperatures. Maybe it was the four years I spent in the Hawkeye State. You know, Iowa.

Bone-chilling cold. (Cedar Rapids temps. dropped to -35° in the mid-1980s. And that was at 11 in the morning.)

Fierce winds that forced their way into your parka made you feel as if you were in an icebox even though you were dressed in five layers.

That year, Iowa ran out of Heet when the distributor's semi broke down in southern Minnesota. (Heet is that liquid in a yellow plastic bottle that you pour into your gas tank to keep your gas lines from freezing. I had never heard of Heet before living in Iowa.) And there was not much "heat" there in winter in the mid-80's.

My uncle was trying to get back home to Ames, Iowa when the axle on his Trailways bus snapped in two like you break a piece off a Hershey's Chocolate bar. He was stranded in below-zero temperatures in Moline, Illinois –waiting for a replacement bus. Jeeze. What fun. How does this happen? You can't make this up.

And then there's the four-letter word, "SNOW" –and more snow. Did I mention snow? And plenty of it – in Iowa.

Back here in Kentucky, who could forget the 2003 ice storm with Lexington at its epicenter? I mean, what in the world were the weather gods thinking?

I never listen to AM radio. But I fired up the battery-powered transistor on a Sunday afternoon to listen to then-mayor Pam Miller's news conference.

As I waited, ice pummeled the trees outside. Surreal. That's one way to describe it. Other-worldly might be another apt description.

Ms. Miller began addressing the city's plan to tackle the ice storm of the century when the radio went dark. The station's signal had been cut when the station's power was cut. I remember thinking to myself, "Oh joy. What's next? Locusts? Pigs flying through the air? Reruns of *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*?"

I'm hoping the winter of 2020–21 will be mild. After what the world has endured so far this year (*the truly awful* – and I do mean *awful* – Coronavirus pandemic), we are due a break, aren't we? Couldn't we at least have a series of sunny days with temperatures in the 50's?

Couldn't we at least have a series of warmer-than-normal days with no snow, no ice, and no cold winds blowing in from the Plains?

What can make a difference in the winter is a keen eye, keeping tabs on conditions, and utilizing weather apps on your computer, iPad, or smartphone.

Websites from NOAA, the folks who bring us The National Weather Service (both [Louisville](#) and [Jackson](#) offices) are also invaluable tools to keep you safe and warm.

Websites from [WeatherUnderground](#) and [The Weather Channel](#) are also very helpful.

If you're using a smartphone or iPad, save these sites below to your Home screen (or bookmark on your Android smartphone):

- [Louisville NWS forecast for Lexington](#)
- [Jackson NWX forecast for eastern Kentucky](#)

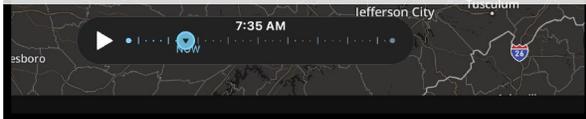
The folks at NOAA provide websites for PCs, Macs and Linux machines and websites custom-made for phones and tablets. That's the difference between the different links.

Continued on page 25.

Winter weather is coming. Are you prepared?



Severe weather can occur anytime – often with little notice. This is a powerful T-storm that moved through central Kentucky in the early morning hours of Oct. 20. This screenshot from Storm Radar on an iPad was taken around 7:35 A.M. in south Lexington.



One of the more pleasant looking weather apps is Living Earth for Mac. As the earth spins above showing you night and day, the cities you've chosen to customize are shown below. In real-time, the app displays current temperature, conditions, and the time in that city. For example, when this screen grab was made, it was 2:10 P.M. in Lexington and 2:10 A.M. in Shanghai.

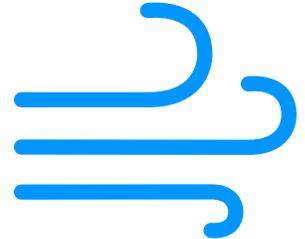


Weather apps are essential in preparing you for what weather's around the bend.

iPhone & iPad

Excellent **iPhone and iPad** apps include:

- Storm Radar
- Dark Sky
- RadarScope
- Seasonality Go
- Storm Shield
- AccuWeather
- CARROT Weather



Android phone

Excellent **Android phone** apps include:

- ClimaCell Weather Assistant
- Today Weather
- NOAA Weather Unofficial
- Weather Live
- 1Weather
- AccuWeather



Mac

Excellent **Mac weather** apps include:

- Storm Radar
- Swackett
- Living Earth
- Weather Bug
- Clear Day
- RadarScope
- CARROT Weather



Windows 10

Excellent **Windows 10 weather** apps include:

- MSN Weather
- Appy Weather
- AccuWeather
- Forecast
- Strawberry Weather
- ForecaWeather
- Hurricane Tracker



Winter weather is coming. Are you prepared?

Another line of defense against bad weather is a NOAA weather radio.

With smartphones providing much of the same service (as long as you have an app installed that will wake you in the middle of the night during a storm, as long as your phone is charged and switched on along with the app, and as long as your phone isn't overwhelmed by network usage), do you really need a weather radio?

Midland, one of the largest weather radio makers obviously says, "yes." The company has a good point.

Its website mentions that many New Yorkers were left without cell phone service after category 3 Hurricane Sandy in 2012 left about one in four cell phone towers inoperable.

Another way to hear about impending severe weather is through NOAA's (the folks who bring us the National Weather Service) nationwide weather radio broadcasts. You can hear them live here.

When I was a kid, I used to listen to the local weather radio forecast by tuning to a special frequency on my Dad's radio. (This is a different frequency from AM & FM and cannot be picked up on typical radios.)

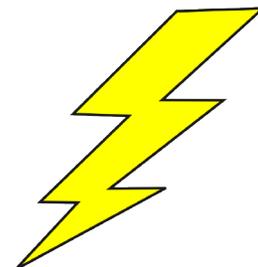
But today you can listen to and read the automated radio weather forecasts (and watches and warnings) online.



The Midland WR120, a very popular weather radio, contains backup batteries and alerts you to impending tornadoes and other bad weather while you're sleeping in the middle of the night. It costs around \$30 on Amazon.



In late October, the iPad Storm Shield app on a late Friday afternoon vividly displays a Severe Thunderstorm Warning just west of Lexington and Nicholasville and a Severe Thunderstorm Watch in southern Ohio.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR RENEWAL.

CKCS Membership
From Sept. 22 to Oct. 21
<i>Submitted by CKCS Board Member, Ben Rice</i>
New Members
None
Renewing Members
Gail Adam
Marcie M. Barnett
Kathy Brinegar
R. Leigh Buckley
Janet Cartmell
Shirley Cornwell
Richard Gehlbach
Debby Giannini
R. Jackson Haga
Kurt Jefferson
Michael & Edyie Kelly
W. Rush Matthews, Jr.
Beverly Norris
James Osborne
Terry Schoen
Carmel Wallace
Judy Woods

Central Kentucky Computer Society

Incorporated

CKCS Resource Center
 160 Moore Drive, Suite 107
 Lexington, Kentucky 40513
 (859) 373-1000
www.ckcs.org



• OFFICERS •

Tenure ends June 30, 2021

President: Brooke Thomas
 Vice-President: Joe Dietz
 Secretary: Larry Trivette
 Treasurer: Jim McCormick

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Tenure ends June 30, 2022

Boone Baldwin
 Toni Greider
 Jan Landers-Lyman
 Ben Rice
 Mike Seiler

Tenure ends June 30, 2021

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 Janet Cartmell
 Larry Mitchum
 Eugene Potter
 Pennie Redmond

Webmasters Bob Brown, Wendell Curtis

Class Coordinator Janet Cartmell

Office Coordinator Jan Landers-Lyman

Office Supervisors

Bob Brown, Wendell Curtis, Tracy Elton, Nancy Kolacz, Jan Landers-Lyman, Mike Seiler, Lydia Short, Julia Steanson, Larry Trivette, Cookie Dungan

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Jenny Brown, Nancy Bowling, Kathy Davis, Gale Greer, Marie Han, Nita Martin, Toni Greider, John Plumlee, Sandra O' Neal, Helen Pope, Dottie VanWinkle

CKCS Calendar Wendell Curtis

Mail Chimp Manager Larry Mitchum

Newsletter Editor Kurt Jefferson

A big thank-you to all of you who renewed this month. **You** are the reason CKCS is able to do all that it does.

One indispensable app: MacTracker

I looked up the definition of “indispensable” on my Mac’s built-in dictionary:

in-dis-pen-sa-ble | ɪndəˈspensəb(ə)l |

adjective

absolutely necessary: *he made himself **indispensable** to the parish priest.*

DERIVATIVES

indispensability | ɪndəˌspensəˈbɪlədē | noun

indispensableness | ɪndəˌspensəb(ə)lnəs | noun

indispensably | ɪndəˌspensəblē | adverb

ORIGIN

mid 16th century (in the sense ‘not to be allowed or provided for by ecclesiastical dispensation’): from medieval Latin *indispensabilis*, from *in-* ‘not’ + *dispensabilis* (see [dispensable](#)).

I said to myself, “Yep, that pretty much defines the free app, MacTracker.” It’s a Canadian product from Ian Page you should download if you own any Apple products, are interested in old Apple hardware or software, or are into databases.

The amount of information here is off the charts. Did you remember that Apple introduced a camera (called Quick Take 100) in January 1994? Or how about the Newton MessagePad introduced in August the year before?

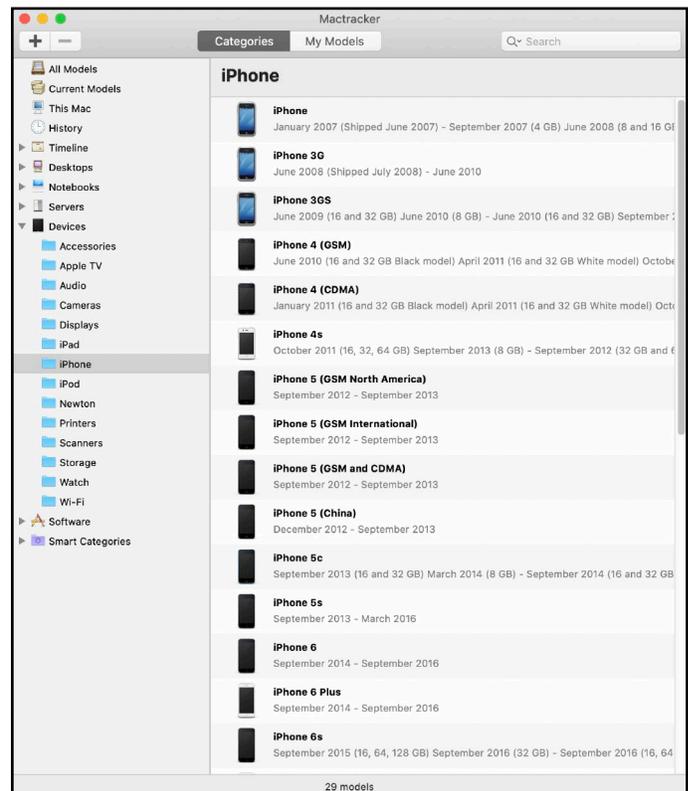
The first time I ever saw a MessagePad, it reminded me of the TV show, *Star Trek*. Seriously.

This was three years before the first PalmPilot – another indispensable product that helped open the door to today’s smartphones.

The Newton MessagePad’s “killer” function was its handwriting recognition ability. Doctors and lawyers loved it.

For the first time, a handheld mainstream product available to Americans could be used for jotting down a patient’s diagnosis or legal briefs or favorite picks to win the Kentucky Derby. Amazing technology in its time.

The MacTracker app resembles the original Macintosh computer introduced in 1984. It shows you tech specs for every iPhone, iPad, Mac, iPod touch, as well as devices not made in years. You’ll also see software that Apple has produced.



MacTracker shows every iPhone ever sold – going back to the original model that shipped in June 2007. You’ll find similar details for all Apple products.

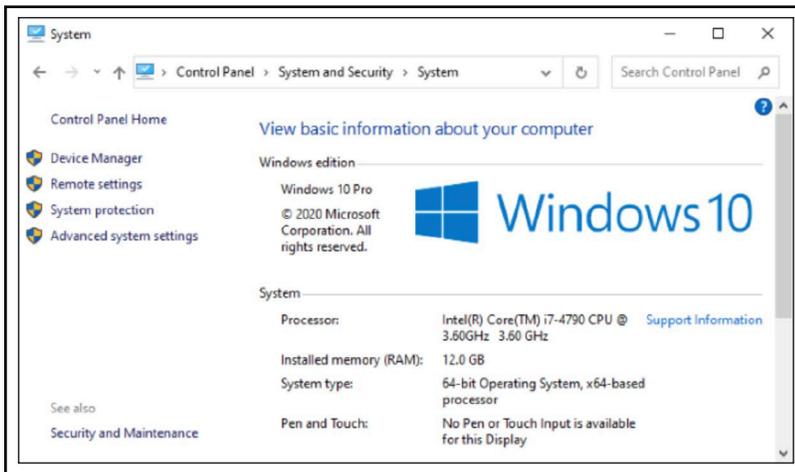
MacTracker is available for:

- Mac
- iPhone & iPad
- Windows 10, 8.1, 7 & Vista

You can find it at the various app stores or [here](#).

Where did the Windows 10 System Control Panel go?

Just when you figure out where most items are located in the Windows 10 operating system, it seems Microsoft moves them, changes them, or redesigns them so you end up scratching your head. That applies to the System Page in the Control panel.



The Windows 10 System Page which is going the way of the Jefferson's ground sloth, Atlantic gray whale, Barbados raccoon, and other extinct species. Courtesy: How-To Geek website

Writers for [How-to Geek](#), [Gizmodo](#) and other tech websites are describing how the System Page has disappeared in the October 2020 Update. First you see it. Then you don't.

It's almost as if you need a PhD, a Master's Degree, a Bachelor's Degree, and a magic potion to keep track of all this.

Throw in a password manager, a 1972 Dodge Charger, and a bottle of Avon shampoo for good measure.

Gizmodo puts it this way: "Microsoft seems to be getting a kick out of seeing users struggle to find Windows 10 features these days."

The tech site notes that after moving the Fresh Start feature in the latest version (2004) and trimming the number of days that users can

manually forestall updates, users might be just a little rankled.

Now that Microsoft is experimenting with moving major Control Panel items to Settings (such as System Information), you might be wondering what's next? "It's a change that long-time Windows users might not take to easily," writes Gizmodo.

In fact, writer Joanna Nelius, who's been using Windows for longer than teenagers have been alive, vented: "If you're like me and have been using the Control Panel for decades, getting accustomed to this feature will be as arduous as unlearning a bad habit."

She admits it's a bit redundant to provide your system specs in three separate places (even though all three don't show exactly the same information.) But she adds: "...If Microsoft wants to eventually axe the entire Control Panel, it will need to do a

much better job about communicating changes to Windows 10 users, whether they are Windows Insiders or not, if it wants to quell the inevitable grumbles."

If you look closely in some Windows users' eyes, you might see a strong longing for Windows XP—the Windows version introduced in October 2001 that became one of the most popular computer operating systems in history.

If you prefer third-party apps, Nelius notes there are several if you want to abandon Microsoft's built-in tools. She likes [CPU-Z](#) (which is free) and [Speccy](#).

Those are just two examples that might help remove the look of longing from the eyes of some long-time Windows users.

c|net: Window's 10 best three new features

If you've installed the Windows 2020 Update (also known as 20H2) on your PC, you might be asking yourself: What are the best features and how do I use them?



The tech website [c|net](#) comes to the rescue. A more streamlined design to your Windows Start menu is more pleasing to the eye and, depending on whether you're running light or dark mode, you can change the colors.

[c|net](#) adds if you want to customize the new Start menu, you can visit Settings → Personalization → Color and choose the accent color you prefer on your taskbar, Start menu, and action center.

With the Windows 2020 Update, also comes better privacy for Microsoft's default browser, Edge, built on the Google Chrome engine.

Many say Edge is playing catch-up with the popular Firefox browser and with Apple's Safari product because the new Edge version allows you to block sites that track your web visits. Firefox and Safari have allowed the user to block trackers for many months.

If you visit Settings → Privacy and services in the revamped Microsoft Edge, there are three separate options: Basic (which allows most trackers), Balanced (blocks trackers from sites you have not visited) and Strict (blocks the majority of trackers from all websites.)

You might ask – how can websites track me even though I haven't visited them? One easy way is through advertising.

Let's say you visit a website with an ad for a car. Even though you didn't visit the auto company's web page, they can still put a cookie into your computer because there's an ad on the page you did visit.

Another new feature of the new Edge is the ability to open all of your browser tabs by pressing Alt + Tab. To customize your settings, visit Settings → System → Multitasking. There is a menu available to see all options for Alt + Tab,

If you want to see a list of any more new features in the Windows 10 October 2020 update, check out the Windows Latest [website](#).

Windows Latest says it's a "fairly minor release with a strong focus on bug fixes, improvements, and minor cosmetic improvements for the Start Menu."

You'll read about the variety of changes including:

- Taskbar tweaks
- Notifications
- How the Settings app is improved
- Your screen's refresh rate
- The User interface now adjusts automatically when you detach the screen for tablet use
- Design changes that attempt to cut back on installation problems during monthly updates
- Autopilot improvements
- Application Guard, which will allow the user to open an untrusted Microsoft Office file in an isolated container

TechRepublic adds [even more tips](#) to make Windows 10 work exactly as you want in a downloadable PDF. If you don't have a TechRepublic account, you'll need to create one.

Where's Big Sur? The next Mac operating system

While we were expecting Apple to introduce its new Mac operating system, called Big Sur (also known as macOS 11.0), in October, folks who follow this closely now say Nov. 17 might be a good guess.



The next so-called “Apple Event” is slated for that day, and we might see new Macs containing “Big Sur” running on Apple produced processors announced that day. (*View c|net’s video of Apple’s “Big Sur” introduction from this past summer.*)

Apple is replacing Intel chips inside its Macs with its own custom-designed processors. These processors are similar to what runs the iPhone, iPad and iPod touch devices.

“Big Sur” is said to be the biggest change coming to Macs since Apple introduced the UNIX-based operating system, Mac OS X (pronounced “ten”) in March 2001.

Expectations are running high as Apple earlier announced that “Big Sur” would provide a major design update.

This includes a major overhaul including updating the curvature of the window corners to updating the appearance of icons and the Dock.

MacRumors [reports](#) that even system sounds have been entirely redone, along with “new symbols in toolbars, sidebars and controls to provide clarity and consistency across apps.”

The website which tracks Apple news adds, “Buttons and controls for apps now appear

when needed and disappear when not in use to provide more focus on content, and the customizable menu bar offers access to a customizable Control Center that houses Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and AirDrop controls, keyboard brightness, Do Not Disturb, Dark Mode, sound level, and more.”

And there’s plenty more including a redesigned Notifications Center, iOS-style widgets, a faster Safari browser which greatly increases battery efficiency on laptops, and a new Safari “Privacy Report” option.

Apple has said “Big Sur” would be compatible with these Mac models:

- MacBook - early 2015 or newer
- MacBook Air - mid 2013 or newer
- MacBook Pro - late 2013 or newer
- Mac Mini - late 2014 or newer
- iMac - Mid 2014 or newer
- iMac Pro - all versions
- Mac Pro - Late 2013 or newer

Should you rush out and install immediately?

Absolutely not, writes long-time Mac user and author, Bob Levitus for the *Houston Chronicle*:

“So, here’s my advice: **Do not install the first release unless you have plenty of time to troubleshoot** and research the inevitable issues that always plague the first (or “point-zero”) release of most software. I’ve been using prerelease versions of Big Sur since June. And, while the latest beta release hasn’t caused me any grief, your Mac and third-party software aren’t the same as mine. I can’t predict the future. It’s possible version 11.0 Big Sur will ship with zero bugs and that everyone’s upgrade will be quick, easy and painless. While that’s possible, I consider it highly unlikely.”

Should you buy a new Mac now? Or wait?

If you keep up with Apple news, you know that Mac sales have soared 21% since early spring. Students, parents, teachers, and plenty of others are buying new machines – especially laptops ranging from MacBook Pros to the much less expensive (and lighter) MacBook Airs.

But sales of the desktop iMac and Mac minis are also climbing.

Apple has announced that future Macs (both laptops and desktop computers) will no longer be running on Intel processors. Instead, Apple is producing its own chips (called ARM) – similar to ones running its iPhones, iPads, and the iPod touch devices.

This begs the question. Should you wait until Apple produces new Macs containing new chips – or should you buy a new Mac now?

I cannot answer that question for you. It depends on how badly you need a new computer.

Here's what I do know. Apple's next Mac operating system (due any day) called "Big Sur," will contain software called Rosetta 2. It's basically a translator, just as a translator might turn Spanish into English.

Rosetta 2 basically "translates" code written for Intel processors into commands that Apple chips can understand. So developers won't need to make any changes in their old apps for this to work.



An Apple iBook from May 2002, running on an IBM PowerPC processor. Years later, Apple switched to Intel chips and used translation software called Rosetta to make old apps work with the new Intel chips.



The original Mac mini desktop machine introduced in 2005 had an Intel processor inside. It was a hit with schools, ad agencies, video editors, and mainstream Mac users looking for the least expensive desktop Mac. Software called Rosetta allowed "old" software written for the earlier PowerPC processors to run.

Rosetta 2 gives developers a transition period so they can update their apps to run on the new Apple chips.

Long-time Mac users might remember that Apple did something similar before. 15 years ago, Apple announced it was switching from the IBM PowerPC processors to Intel chips. An earlier version of Rosetta played a major role – allowing PowerPC software (such as ClarisWorks and AppleWorks) to run on Intel processors. It was seamless and many Mac users at the time didn't realize they were running apps that normally couldn't run under the new Intel processors.

Getting back to the original question – if you can hold off from buying a new Mac until Apple announces new models containing its own processors (probably coming this month), it might make sense. Years from now when the great majority of Mac users are running machines with Apple processors, updated apps will run without any translation required.

Good News? Robocalls are down. Really.

It's been overshadowed by plenty of other events: (the Coronavirus pandemic, hurricanes, Washington D.C. theatrics, wildfires in the western U.S., plane crashes, lawbreaking politicians, the U.K. leaving the E.U., marches in the streets of U.S. cities, including Lexington; the hottest year in recorded history, police shootings leading to major protests, massive bushfires in Australia...) but **there is a spark of good news for 2020.**

The Federal Trade Commission reports the number of robocall complaints have been down so far this year. The F.T.C. confirms the actual number of robocalls fell.

In addition, the sheer number of illegal calls by live callers is down, too.

Both the F.T.C. and F.C.C. sent dozens of letters to companies providing VoIP (voice over Internet Protocol) services that apparently routed or transmitted illegal Coronavirus scam robocalls. The VoIP companies are like phone companies over the Internet – they provide the pipes through which scammers operate.

Yes, I know. You're reading and remarking, "You've got to be kidding me." (Or something similar using four-letter-words which cannot be used in a family newsletter.)

A columnist for Utah's *Deseret News* wrote an excellent piece near the end of October, titled, "It's 2020, so why am I still getting robocalls?"

I especially like this part of his column: "The worst day was when I got a call from some guy on the East Coast, threatening me with bodily harm if I didn't stop calling and harassing him with robocalls. It was a Saturday morning. I hadn't picked up a telephone all day, neither to send nor receive a call. But he would have none of that explanation, and I was glad we were separated by a couple of thousand miles.

My number had, of course, been spoofed by a telemarketing company, making it look as if this man's caller ID was reporting my number.

And don't get me started on the text messages from candidates running for office. I've replied "STOP" so

many times my fingers have developed muscle memory for those keystrokes."

One of the problems is that current technology has trouble deciphering between extended car warranty robocalls (I've gotten at least 50 of these so far this year) and robocalls from your pharmacy alerting you that your prescription is ready to be picked up.

But that is changing. Technology is getting better. I answer no "extended car warranty" robocalls because it silently goes to my cell phone's voice mail where I automatically report it to Nomorobo. Their app then adds it to their huge database of numbers used by robocallers. Yes, robocallers are constantly changing their numbers. But Nomorobo is working.

In addition, during Amazon Prime Days, I bought a new landline phone system. (Landline phone in this era? Yes.) I chose it after reading reviews because it allows you to answer your cell phone number using your landline. It has an awesome long range of 2,300 feet. And it also includes a feature called "Smart Call Blocker" and "Caller ID Announce."

To screen out robocalls, it asks the caller to punch a certain key after they've dialed your number. The caller has to record his or her name. When your phone rings, the caller announces the name and you can answer, block or send to the answering machine.

It's working well so far. I'm actually able to work on this newsletter or watch an evening of streaming TV without an unwanted robocall interruption. Amazing. Simply. Amazing.

In addition, a new law called the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED Act) jacks up fines on spam robocallers from a slap on the hand (\$1,500) to as much as \$10,00 per illegal call. It also forces phone companies to use technology to verify that incoming calls are legitimate before ever reaching consumers.

Maybe one day those obnoxious "extended car warranty" robocalls will finally die. **One. Can. Hope.**

As the weather gets cold, curl up with one of these titles

Once Upon a River

By Diane Setterfield



On a dark midwinter's night in an ancient inn on the river Thames, an extraordinary event takes place. The regulars are telling stories to while away the dark hours, when the door bursts open on a grievously wounded stranger. In his arms is the lifeless body of a small child. Hours later, the girl stirs, takes a breath and returns to life. Is it a miracle? Is it magic? Or can science provide an explanation? These questions have many answers, some of them quite dark indeed. Those who dwell on the river bank apply all their ingenuity to solving the puzzle of the girl who died and lived again, yet as the days pass the mystery only deepens.

place to get away and unwind by themselves. The trip began innocently enough...

Winter Solstice

By Elin Hilderbrand



Raise one last glass with the Quinn Family at the Winter Street Inn. It's been too long since the entire Quinn family has been able to celebrate the holidays under the same roof, but that's about to change. With Bart back safe and sound from Afghanistan, the Quinns are preparing for a holiday more joyous than any they've experienced in years. And Bart's safe return isn't the family's only good news...

Leave the World Behind

By Rumaan Alam



A magnetic novel about two families, strangers to each other, who are forced together on a long weekend gone terribly wrong. From the bestselling author of *Rich and Pretty* comes a suspenseful and provocative novel keenly attuned to the complexities of parenthood, race, and class.

The Changeling

By Victor LaVelle



When Apollo Kagwa's father disappeared, he left his son a box of books and strange recurring dreams. Now Apollo is a father himself—and as he and his wife, Emma, settle into their new lives as parents, exhaustion and anxiety start to take their toll. Apollo's old dreams return and Emma begins acting odd...

The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore

By Kim Fu



At Forevermore, a sleepaway camp in the Pacific Northwest, campers are promised adventures in the woods, songs by the fire, and lifelong friends. Bursting with excitement and nervous energy, five girls set off on an overnight kayaking trip to a nearby island. But before the night is over, they find themselves stranded, with no adults to help them survive or guide them home.

Beartown

By Fredrik Backman



The #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Man Called Ove* returns with a dazzling, profound novel about a small town with a big dream — and the price required to make it come true. People say Beartown is finished. A tiny community nestled deep in the forest, it is slowly losing ground to the ever encroaching trees. But down by the lake stands an old ice rink, built generations ago...

The Snow Child

By Eowyn Ivey



In this magical debut, a couple's lives are changed forever by the arrival of a little girl, wild and secretive, on their snowy doorstep.

Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart — he breaking under the weight of the work of the farm; she crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season's first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone — but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees.

The Cold Millions

By Jess Walter



From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Beautiful Ruins* comes another "literary miracle" (NPR)—a propulsive, richly entertaining novel about two brothers swept up in the turbulent class warfare of the early twentieth century. An intimate story of brotherhood, love, sacrifice, and betrayal set against the panoramic backdrop of an early twentieth-century America that eerily echoes our own time.

The Hunting Party

By Lucy Foley



During the languid days of the Christmas break, a group of thirty-something friends from Oxford meet to welcome in the New Year together, a tradition they began as students ten years ago. For this vacation, they've chosen an idyllic and isolated estate in the Scottish Highlands — the perfect

Happiness

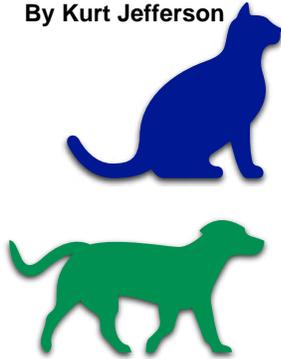
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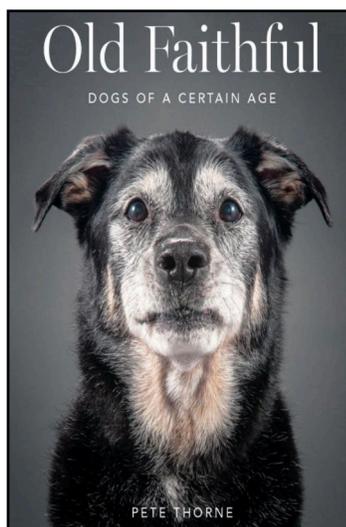
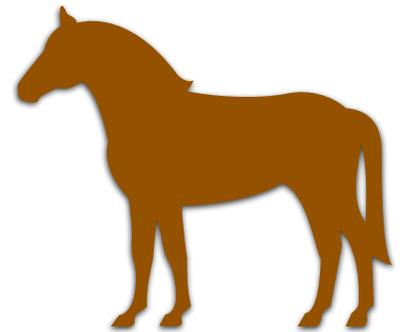
London. A fox makes its way across Waterloo Bridge. The distraction causes two pedestrians to collide — Jean, an American studying the habits of urban foxes, and Attila, a Ghanaian psychiatrist there to deliver a keynote speech.

Books for animal lovers

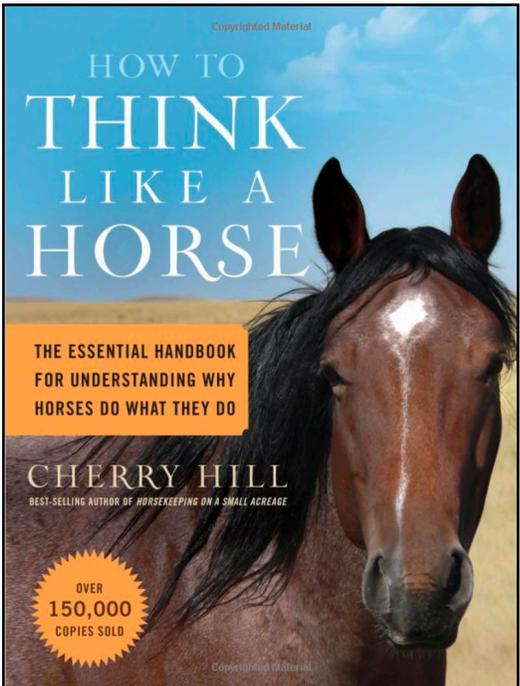
By Kurt Jefferson



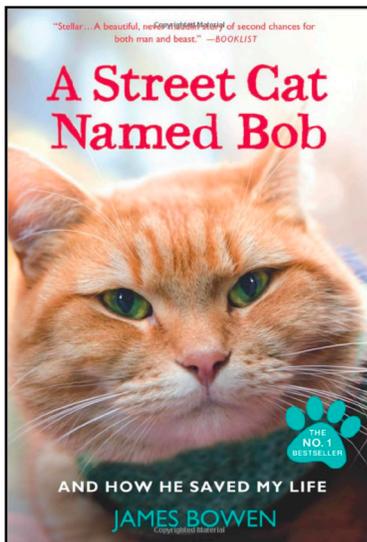
The older I get, the more I believe that our four-legged friends are smarter than their two-legged owners. Seriously. Sure, humans have larger brains. But watch what's going on in the U.S. (and the world) and you quickly realize that animals use a great deal more of their brain power than their "stupid" human owners. If you love animals as I do, here are some books you might want to embrace on the upcoming cool days and cold nights of winter. Enjoy.



Old Faithful by Pete Thorne
From Amazon:
 A stunning and indelible collection of portraits and stories that capture dogs of a certain age in all their patchy, scruffy, jowly, and devoted glory—an homage to man's best friend, based on the popular international photography project. The dogs in *Old Faithful* are well worn, well loved, and well on in years. After his grandmother's 100th birthday party, photographer and dog lover Pete Thorne found himself taking photos of elderly dogs. In their aged, imperfect faces, he saw a depth of life, joy, and wisdom missing from more youthful subjects.



How to Think Like a Horse
 by Cherry Hill
From Amazon:
 In this fascinating best seller, Cherry Hill explores the way horses think and how it affects their behavior. Explaining why certain smells and sounds appeal to your horse's sensibility and what sets off his sudden movements, Hill stresses how recognizing the thought processes behind your horse's actions can help you communicate effectively and develop a trusting relationship based on mutual respect.
 "If more of us read this book, there might be a lot less whip-cracking, bolting, and biting in our daily lives. **BOTTOM LINE:** Your horse suggests you pick this one up."
 – Horseman's Yankee Pedlar, January 2007



A Street Cat Named Bob
 by James Bowen
From Amazon:
 When street musician James Bowen found an injured cat curled up in the hallway of his apartment building, he had no idea how much his life was about to change. James was living hand to mouth on the streets of London, barely making enough money to feed himself, and the last thing he needed was a pet. Yet James couldn't resist helping the strikingly intelligent but very sick animal, whom he named Bob. He slowly nursed Bob back to health and then sent the cat on his way, imagining that he would never see him again. But Bob had other ideas. An international sensation, landing on the bestseller list in England for 52 consecutive weeks and selling in 26 countries around the world.



What are you watching?

By Kurt Jefferson

Streaming rocks! Okay, now that I've gotten that out of my system... Seriously, if you haven't streamed Netflix, Amazon Prime, Acorn TV, Britbox, or some other service, you need to give it a try. The variety of shows available through streaming services far surpasses what's available on the telly, in my humble opinion.

While Britannia used to rule the seas, Britain might come close to ruling the streaming bandwidth in many homes. That's why Acorn TV and Britbox are so popular in America. They stream what you would never see on American TV. Acorn TV excels at international shows from Canada, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark... while Britbox stays closer to home offering more shows originating in Great Britain.

I've just finished viewing the first season of The Sommerdahl Murders from Denmark. And I don't even speak a lick of Danish. But I can read subtitles.



I've also finished watching episode 4 of the second season of the Australian hit, Mystery Road. Whoa. Violent bad guys. Plenty of wide-open empty spaces in the outback. An archeological dig. And that's just during the opening credits. Check out the [IHeartBritishTV website](http://IHeartBritishTV.com) to see plenty of British shows (and from other countries too) you might want to watch. There's a British TV Streaming Guide for sale here, but scroll down and see plenty of shows you might want to view.



I just visited Acorn TV's "All Shows" sections. Shown above are just portions of the shows currently available to stream on that one streaming service. So many shows, so little time.

NEWS ITEMS YOU MISSED – STORIES FILED WHILE YOU SLEPT

[Start doing these things for yourself to transform your life in less than a year](#)

[Abandon parenting, and just be a parent](#)

[The worst shark attack in history](#)

[Most people shouldn't pay for ID theft protection](#)

[This is what it means when your dog puts their paw on you](#)

[Eight powerful evening habits that will prepare you for a better tomorrow](#)

[Let me finish: How to stop interrupting...and change the world](#)

[Animals keep evolving into crabs, which is somewhat disturbing](#)

[There was never a tulip fever](#)

[Bruce Springsteen and the art of aging well](#)

[The struggle and triumph of America's first black doctors](#)

[It's time to talk about Covid-19 and surfaces again](#)

[Quick-fix cold and flu remedies do nothing but make you poorer](#)

[How to survive five extreme weather scenarios](#)

[How to make this winter not totally suck, according to psychologists](#)

[Being Normal](#)

[Mitochondria may hold keys to anxiety and mental health](#)

[Coronavirus may be a blood vessel disease, which explains everything](#)

[We need to talk about ventilation](#)

[Science might have identified the optimal human diet](#)

[How to kickstart healthy eating with this one-week Mediterranean diet meal plan recommended by a registered dietician](#)

[Do everything faster with these keyboard tricks](#)

[Why everything is sold out](#)

[Quibi is shutting down](#)

[Four simple emails you should send every week](#)

[Your brain makes you a different person every day](#)

[What the weather is](#)

[It's official: Solar is the cheapest electricity in history](#)

[What if we could live for a million years?](#)

[Why you don't really know what you know](#)

[How to make Pita bread at home](#)

[How to make crispy, juicy fried chicken](#)

[Your "expired" milk still has so much more to give](#)

[Which cooking oil is the healthiest?](#)

[The battle to invent the automatic rice cooker](#)

[The secret tricks hidden inside restaurant menus](#)

[The race to redesign sugar](#)

[What your cat's behaviors, body language and sounds mean](#)

[13 secrets your cat wants you to know](#)

[19 things your dog is trying to tell you](#)

[How to make the most of Covid winter](#)

ANSWERS TO OLD ADVERTISING SLOGANS/CAMPAIGNS

Slogan / Campaign	Company Using It
“Reach out and touch someone.”	The Bell System
Madge: “You’re soaking in it.”	Palmolive Dishwashing Liquid
“He likes it! Hey, Mikey...”	Life cereal
Wouldn’t you really rather have a ___?	Buick
Put a tiger in your tank! Happy Motoring.	Esso
“Where’s the beef?”	Wendy’s
Think small.	Volkswagen
Think different.	Apple (formerly Apple Computer)
Where do you want to go today?	Microsoft Corp.
Us ___ smokers would rather fight than switch!	Tareyton (cigarettes)
A diamond is forever.	DeBeers
Choosey mothers choose ____.	Jif Peanut Butter
Stronger than dirt.	Ajax
The power of dreams.	Honda
The choice of a new generation.	Pepsi-Cola
Ask the man who owns one.	Packard
That was easy.	Staples
Built for the road ahead.	Ford Motor Co.
Your next car.	Chrysler Motors
Make it great.	Pizza Hut
Stronger, healthier gums.	Colgate Toothpaste
Oh, thank heaven.	7-Eleven
The Uncola.	7-Up
There are some things money can’t buy. For everything else, there’s ____.	MasterCard
Good to the last drop.	Maxwell House Coffee
Does she or doesn’t she?	Clairol
The happiest place on earth.	Disneyland

How many old advertising slogans did you correctly match with the company using them?

It’s amazing how many of these slogans / jingles / promotions stick in our heads.

Just for fun, here are some more award-winning ad campaigns from the past:



Ring around the collar! Ring around the collar! – *Wisk Detergent*

Have It *Your* Way – *Burger King*

This is your brain. This is your brain on drugs. Any questions? – *Partnership for a Drug-free America*

“Gimme me a break. Gimme me a break.” – *Kit Kat candy bars*

“Shave Time. Shave Money.” – *Dollar Shave Club*

“I’m Lovin’ It.” – *McDonald’s*

“The King of Beers” – *Budweiser*

“Taste the Rainbow” – *Skittles candy*

“The future’s bright. The future’s orange.” – A French/European cell phone provider that used the ad on dozens of billboards.

“Dog wants a kitty.” – Successful “talking dog” campaign urging viewers to adopt a pet or donate to a shelter. The moral of the public service ad? Animals need companionship too.

Cleans like a white tornado – *Ajax*

“I can’t believe I ate the whole thing!” – *Alka Seltzer*

ANSWERS TO OLD ADVERTISING SLOGANS/CAMPAIGNS

Slogan / Campaign	Company Using It
Advancement through technology	Audi
Times of your Life	70's Paul Anka song used in a Kodak film ad campaign on radio and TV
Tastes so good, cats ask for it by name	Meow Mix
Quality never goes out of style	Levi–Strauss
Snap! Crackle! Pop!	Rice Krispies cereal
You can trust your car to the man who wears the star.	Texaco
Let your fingers do the walking.	Yellow Pages
It's everywhere you want to be.	Visa
Life's Good.	LG
The best a man can get.	Gillette
We power transactions that drive commerce.	Pitney–Bowes
There is no substitute.	Porsche
Low fares done right.	Frontier Airlines
Betcha can't eat just one	Lay's Potato Chips
All the news that's fit to print.	<i>The New York Times</i>
The secret of beautiful hair.	Dove
It's the <i>real</i> thing.	Coca–Cola
How do you spell relief?	Rolaids
Makes quitting suck less.	Nicorette
The quicker picker upper.	Bounty paper towels
Live unböring.	Ikea
Don't leave home without it.	American Express
A better life, a better world.	Panasonic
The heartbeat of America.	Chevrolet
It's finger lickin' good.	Kentucky Fried Chicken
Grace, Space, Pace.	Jaguar
No battery is stronger longer.	Duracell
Smell like a man, man.	Old Spice

Want more old ad slogans?



Our repairmen are the loneliest guys in town – *Maytag washers*

The cone with the curl on top – *Dairy Queen*

“Nothin says lovin’ like something from the oven – (and *Pillsbury* says it best)” – *Pillsbury*

Be a Pepper! – *Dr. Pepper*

We’re #2. We try harder. – *Avis Rental Car*

Double your pleasure. Double your fun. – *Doublemint Gum*.

Give a Hoot! Don’t Pollute! (1970’s *Woodsy Owl* campaign by the *Forest Service*)

“*Schlitz* tastes so good, it’s first in sales in America.”

I’m stuck on *Band–Aid*, cause *Band–Aid’s* stuck on me.

Strong enough for a man, but made for a woman. – *Secret Deodorant*

“*Calgon*, take me away.” – *Calgon Bath Powder*

Please don’t squeeze the *Charmin* – *Charmin Toilet Tissue*

“Meow, meow, meow, meow,” – *Meow Mix Cat Food* (Cat sings meow, meow, meow, meow as he endorses *Meow Mix* in this ‘70s hit TV commercial.)

Where America Shops – *Sears*

Got Milk? – Calif. Milk Processor Board

Beef, it’s what’s for dinner – The National Cattleman’s Beef Assoc.

Risky Business? Connecting to public WiFi during this pandemic

By Kurt Jefferson

If notorious 1930's-era bank robbers Bonnie and Clyde were alive today, I'm convinced they would not rob banks. No. Way. It's too much work.

They would cruise the country looking for public WiFi networks at motels, coffee shops, airports, and restaurants (especially "open" WiFi where there's no password required.) You enter the business and your iPhone, Android phone, iPad or laptop automatically joins the WiFi network. Easy. Peezy.



Bank Robbers: Bonnie and Clyde in March 1933.
Courtesy: Wikipedia.org

Then modern-day Bonnie and Clyde crooks get to work hacking and walk away with the keys to your treasure. They could potentially access your passwords, which lead directly to your credit cards, your bank account, your checking account, your IRA's, your retirement account, your life savings...even your medical records.

Forbes recently published an excellent piece on how you can protect yourself by taking simple steps to protect your iPhone (of course, this also applies to Android phones, iPads, and PC, Mac and Linux laptops.)

Forbes writes, "By now, we should all be well aware of the perils of public Wi-Fi—airports, shopping malls, coffee shops, stores and hotels. Convenient and usually free, saving our data plans and ensuring we can use our phones normally when away from home. But if you do connect your iPhone to hotel, coffee shop, airport or restaurant Wi-Fi, you're likely making the risks much, much worse than they need be. Yet again this month, the FBI has warned users to beware the risks of public Wi-Fi as Americans increasingly work away from offices and often homes."

Because of the current Coronavirus pandemic, more and more of us are getting our work done from motels and hotels – connecting to their free WiFi networks. The FBI warns this is a potential nightmare for some: "Attackers target hotels to obtain records of guest names, personal information, and credit card numbers. The hotel environment involves many unaffiliated guests, operating in a confined area, and all using the same wireless network. *Guests are largely unable to control, verify, or monitor network security.* Cyber criminals can take advantage of this environment to monitor a victim's internet browsing or redirect victims to false login pages. Criminals can also conduct an "evil twin attack" by

creating their own malicious network with a similar name to the hotel's network. Guests may then mistakenly connect to the criminal's network instead of the hotel's, giving the criminal direct access to the guest's computer."

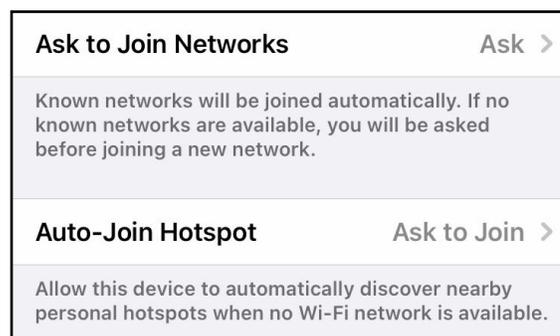
To prevent this, the FBI's website lists a number of protections you can take under "[Recommendations for Reducing the Risks of Hotel Wi-Fi.](#)" (Scroll down the page to see this.)

Change your iPhone settings

Forbes recommends iPhone users avoid auto-joining any public WiFi network.

Click on "Settings" and then go to "Wi-Fi." Make sure "Ask to Join Networks" is set to "Ask."

Make sure "Auto-Join Hotspot" is set to "Ask to Join."



This is a screen grab from my iPhone SE, showing how you'll want to change your settings if you haven't already. This will help protect you and your personal data.

"This will stop your iPhone connecting to new or known networks or personal hotspots without you realizing, giving you the opportunity to exercise caution before clicking "Yes," writes Forbes.

Also very important: Click on the blue-circled "i" next to any public network you join and disable the "Auto-Join" option. Forbes notes you don't need to click on "Forget this Network," but you can do this if you're unlikely to be back. This will control where and when your iPhone connects.

In addition, if you have to use public WiFi, use an app called a VPN. (I know. It's geeky. But it can save YOUR bacon.) VPN stands for Virtual Private Network.

Forbes urges you to spend the money and buy a good, reputable VPN. I like TunnelBear. It's easy-to-use, it has completed numerous security audits to prove it's protecting your privacy, and it has gotten good reviews.

Risky Business? Connecting to public WiFi during this Pandemic

After switching on a trustworthy VPN, all of your Internet traffic travels through a tunnel.

PCMag.com explains it this way, “Other users on the same network as you won’t be able to see your web traffic, because it’s safely encased within the tunnel. This is particularly useful because public Wi-Fi networks might not have the most robust security...”

In addition to TunnelBear, other VPNs that have gotten excellent reviews include:

- ExpressVPN
- NordVPN
- IVPN
- Surfshark
- CyberGhost VPN
- Mullvad VPN
- Perfect Privacy
- Proton VPN
- Private Internet Access VPN
- VPN.ac
- OVPN

Many of these apps are available through the App Store, Google Play for Android smartphones, or websites.

To save money what about free VPNs? Lifehacker urges you not to use these: “At the bare minimum, don’t use a free VPN. Ever. The tech behind VPNs requires money to run, so if a company isn’t getting its revenue from users, it’s coming from another source. That almost always involves tracking and selling your information to other businesses and advertisers. In other words, it’s the exact opposite of what a VPN should do.”

If you need more help choosing a trustworthy VPN, check out The Wirecutter, one of my favorite review sites.

Their favorite VPN is Mullvad VPN (an open-source VPN) that works on Macs, Windows 10 PCs, iPhone, (App Store), iPad (App Store), Android phones, (Google Play store), Linux. Do your research and find one that works for you.

Slate also published an excellent article last year titled, “Do You Trust Your VPN? Are You Sure?” Here’s a sample: “I certainly don’t like having to trust my internet service provider, Verizon, with all of my browsing data. And yet, for years, I’ve resisted signing up for—or even fully understanding—a technology that many privacy and security mavens consider essential to safe browsing. When I set out to find the right VPN, however, I ran into an awkward problem: figuring out which of the scores of VPN providers to trust.”

And then there’s this from the Slate article: “In case you needed more incentive to consider using a VPN, Congress in 2017 nixed a rule that was supposed to prohibit ISPs from tracking and selling information about your online activity

without your consent. Basically, your wireless provider and home internet provider are now free, legally speaking, to mine your online habits for profit.” Oh. Joy.

And here’s another worrisome trend from the Slate 2019 piece: “A January investigation by the site Top10VPN found that more than half of the top 20 free VPN apps on the iOS and Android app stores either have Chinese ownership or are based in China. That’s all the more suspicious given that China officially banned VPNs last year. The concern: If China is allowing them to continue operating, it could be because they’re sharing data on their users with the Chinese government.” Oh. Joy.

Another one of my favorite websites, Tom’s Guide has chimed in with its favorite VPN picks for 2020:

- ExpressVPN
- NordVPN
- Surfshark

Meantime, TechRadar writes its opinion that ExpressVPN is the best VPN based in the U.S.

More from the FBI – As the FBI tracks modern-day Bonnie and Clydes hacking into public WiFi networks it offers these recommendations :

- Use a reputable Virtual Private Network (VPN) while teleworking to encrypt network traffic, making it harder for a cybercriminal to eavesdrop on your online activity.
- If available, use your phone’s wireless hotspot instead of hotel WiFi.
- Before traveling, ensure your computer’s operating system (OS) and software are up to date on all patches; important data is backed up; and your OS has a current, well-vetted security or anti-virus application installed and running.
- Confirm the name of the motel/hotel’s WiFi network BEFORE connecting.
- DO NOT connect to networks other than the hotel’s official WiFi network.
- If you connect using the public Wi-Fi setting, do not enable auto-reconnect while on a hotel network.
- Always confirm an HTTPS connection when browsing the internet; this is identified by the lock icon near the address bar.
- Avoid accessing sensitive websites, such as banking sites, or supplying personal data, such as social security numbers while using public WiFi networks.
- Enable login notifications to receive alerts on suspicious account activity.

Stay safe.

Stay secure.

Stay well.

Tech stories you might have missed

With everything else going on in the world this fall, it's highly likely you missed these tech stories making news in the hours, days and weeks before Halloween:

Is charging your cell phone all day killing it?

A former iPhone sales specialist at an Apple Store, who now writes for the review website, The Wirecutter, says if you're unsure about the "right" way to charge your cell phone, you've got plenty of company. Nick Guy, along with two other tech experts wrote an extensive piece, "[What You Should \(and Shouldn't\) Do to Extend Your Phone's Battery Life.](#)" Avoid video streaming and GPS navigation if you really need your phone's battery to last a long time on a specific day, say the experts. Using an ad-blocker if you use Safari or another Web browser a lot is another easy way to make your battery last longer. This is one of the best articles I've read – chockfull of details – on how to make that phone battery last longer. Oh, it's also not a good idea to leave that phone on the charger all day. The experts at The Wirecutter say: "Charging your battery to full capacity less often, and not letting it run totally dry, can extend its life – somewhat."

Amazon Echo Buying Guide

NBC News published a story last summer telling readers how to choose between various Amazon Echo smart speakers. This is a great guide if you're thinking about buying an Echo for yourself or for someone else over the upcoming holidays. Regular readers of this newsletter know that I like to check The Wirecutter, a review website bought by *The New York Times*. The Wirecutter tells you all about Alexa (and the 'best' Alexa speaker) [here](#). UPDATE: Amazon has [announced](#) a new Echo and several new versions of the Echo Dot will be coming this fall to replace older models. There will also be a new Echo Show. The Wirecutter is now testing those.

Google Maps getting better detail

The [Verge](#) reported that, "Google Maps is being re-designed to make it easier to distinguish between natural features in the environment, whether they're mountainous ice caps, deserts, beaches, or dense forests." Google said the new maps would be available for the 220 countries and territories currently supported by Google Maps. In addition, street maps in select cities are getting much more detail.

Apple greatly improves AppleCare+

The tech website, [MacRumors](#), was the first to report that Apple has updated its protection plan for its Apple Watches, iPhones, iPads, Macs, iPod touch and other devices. AppleCare+ now covers "two incidents of accidental damage protection every 12 months. Prior to now, AppleCare+ covered two incidents of accidental damage every 24 months," reports MacRumors. You can read about the difference between AppleCare (a basic warranty) and AppleCare+ [here](#). Read about specific AppleCare+ coverage for your Apple product:

- [Mac](#)
- [iPad](#)
- [iPhone](#)
- [Apple Watch](#)
- [iPod touch](#)
- [Apple TV](#)
- [Apple Display \(computer monitor\)](#)
- [HomePod \(Apple's smart speaker\)](#)
- [AirPods, Beats earphones & Beats headphones](#)

Ebook readers that will save your commute

Popular Science [tested](#) several eBook readers and liked the Kindle Paperwhite the best. The runner-up device is the Likebook Mars E-Reader, based on the Android 6.0 operating system. "Fast, powerful, and user-friendly" is how PS describes the Note2 10.3 ePaper device from Boox. A new interface is designed to be uncluttered and more intuitive. The Note2 is unique in that it allows you to use a Wacom stylus to take notes or even write directly on top of PDF books.

Apple One Services Bundles

Apple has just introduced its services bundles which allow users to pay one flat fee for several Apple services such as Apple Music, extra iCloud storage, Apple Arcade, Apple News+, Apple Fitness+, and more. [AppleInsider](#) describes the different tiers available and how it could end up saving you money if you pick the right tier for you.



IF YOU BELIEVE IN CKCS AND ITS MISSION, PLEASE SUPPORT IT BY:

- **Becoming a member.** You can phone 859.373.1000 and request a membership application or visit <https://ckcs.org/ClcsApp.pdf>. Fill out the form and mail it in.
- **Taking classes or workshops.** The spring session of classes will start before you know it. Keep an eye on this newsletter for a list of spring session classes.
- **Choosing to support CKCS when you shop at Kroger.** [This website tells you how to set it up.](#) Please choose the Central Kentucky Computer Society as the non-profit you want to support. When you buy groceries, a portion of what you pay benefits CKCS.
- **Choosing to support CKCS when you buy online using AmazonSmile.** You have to visit smile.amazon.com (not amazon.com) to make this work. If you prefer, you can use the Amazon mobile app on your smartphone and activate “Amazon Smile” in the Settings. Then choose CKCS as the non-profit you want to help. This [website](#) explains what AmazonSmile is and how to use it.

CKCS
Says Thank You!

Happy Thanksgiving!

**CKCS wishes all
of its members
and friends a
happy holiday.**





As we approach the end of 2020

We need to remind ourselves that it's the:

- **Office workers**
- **Teachers**
- **Students**
- **SIG leaders**
- **Members**
- **Board members**
- **Directors**
- **Volunteers**
- **Supporters**



and plenty of others who make CKCS a reality.

Thank you for your support this past year!



Video Links



[Autumn in Telluride, Colo.](#)

The splendor of fall foliage in the Great Smoky Mountains

[Autumn foliage in Washington State \(Relaxation video\)](#)

[Peak fall foliage in New England](#)

[New England peak fall foliage](#)

[Fall in Vermont](#)

[Utah fall colors](#)

[Beautiful fall colors: Midwest time-lapse](#)

[Fall colors in Canada: Algonquin Park – Ontario](#)

[Footage: Cow asking man to save calf](#)

[Cat watching a scary movie](#)

[Teeny, tiny bulldog won't stop talking](#)

[Barney Fife 'best moments'](#)

[Best Super Bowl ads of the 80's](#)

[I've Got a Secret: Last eyewitness to Abraham Lincoln assassination](#)

[The wit of JFK](#)

[What's My Line? Nov. 1960 – John Wayne, Joey Bishop](#)

[Bill Murray as Rodney Dangerfield's psychiatrist](#)

Dick Cavett Show: [When Orson Welles crossed paths with Hitler and Churchill](#)

[Dick Cavett Show: Alfred Hitchcock predicted the Atom bomb](#)

Dick Cavett Show: [Alfred Hitchcock on how he made the shower scene in 'Psycho'](#)

[Every Alfred Hitchcock cameo role](#)

[Buster Keaton: One Week – \(1920 silent movie\)](#)

[Charlie Chaplain: The Great Dictator \(Barber shop scene\)](#)

[Three Stooges: So Long Mr Chumps \(1941\)](#)

[Three Stooges: Compilation of pie fights](#)

[Buffalo Springfield sings For What It's Worth \(reached #7 on the Billboard Hot 100 in 1966.\)](#)

[Bobby Joe Gentry sings Ode to Billie Joe \(reached #1 on Billboard in 1967.\) Rolling Stone magazine ranked the song among the Top-500 songs recorded.](#)

[Jeannie C. Riley sings Harper Valley PTA \(reached #1 on Billboard Hot 100 hits in 1968.\) An international hit. Riley was the first woman ever to hit #1 on both the Billboard Hot 100 and U.S. Hot Country Singles charts with the same song.](#)

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