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THE WYSIWYG

Member of apcug
An International Association of Technology & Computer User Groups

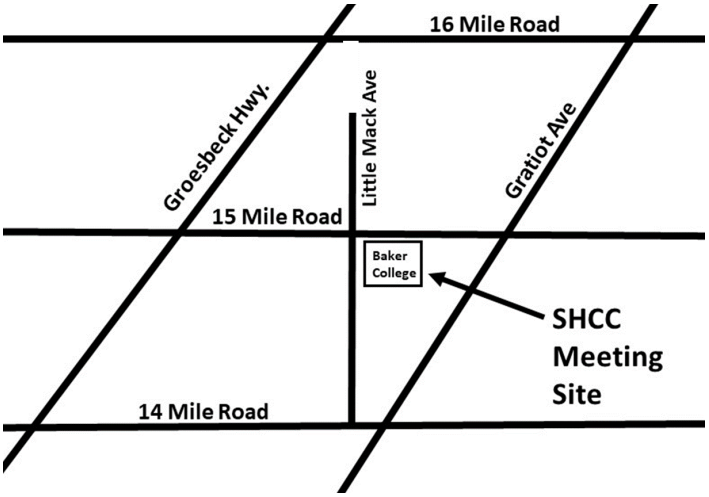
April 2020 Volume 32 Issue 4

STERLING HEIGHTS COMPUTER CLUB
PO Box 385
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48311-0385

MAIN MEETING: TUESDAY MAY 5
7:00 PM

(doors open at 6:30 PM)

Baker College
34950 Little Mack Ave.
in Clinton Township
Located at the southeast corner of Little Mack Avenue and 15 Mile Road
(Enter at the main entrance on Little Mack Ave. The meeting room is then straight ahead.)



IN THIS ISSUE:

This Month's Main Meeting Topic:

The will be no SHCC meeting held in April due to the prevailing concerns for public health as expressed by the MI state and US governments.

Chat and email amongst yourselves.

Stay healthy.

Guests and visitors are welcome. People can attend any SHCC meetings during two consecutive months before deciding whether to become a member or not. July and August don't count since there is no main meeting in those months. Membership includes admission to all SHCC functions and the newsletter. Membership is open to anyone. It is not limited to the residents of Sterling Heights.

DUES: $30/YEAR

CLUB ADDRESS: PO Box 385, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385
CLUB E-MAIL ADDRESS: Info@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org
CLUB WEB PAGE: http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

2020 SHCC Officers — Thanks to all!!!

President	**Don VanSyckel**	President@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org
Vice President	**Mike Bader**	VP@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org
Secretary	**Martee Held**	Secretary@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org
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Resource People

Firefox	Don VanSyckel
General Computer Questions	Jack Vander- Schrier
Hardware	*(open)*
MS Publisher	*(open)*
MS Word	Rick Schummer
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer

SHCC Coordinators

Associate Editor	Rick Schummer
Door prizes	Don VanSyckel
Greeter for visitors	Jim Waldrop
Newsletter Publisher/Editor	Paul Baecker
Program Coordinator	Mike Bader
Publicity	Patrick Little
Publicity	Phil Reynaud
Welcome & check-in desk	Jim Waldrop
Web Site Admin	Don VanSyckel
Web Watch column	Paul Baecker

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Club Dues Amounts

The club dues were increased to $30 per year at the November 2018 meeting.

This includes a digital version of the newsletter sent monthly, except for July and August, when the club does not meet.

A paper version of the newsletter is available in place of the digital newsletter, for an additional $31 per year. (increased at March 2019 meeting)

Associate memberships, for a second member of a household, remain at an additional $15 per year.

Four-Month Meeting Schedule

MAY 2020
5 - SHCC Main Meeting
10 - SEMCO meeting

JUNE 2020
2 - SHCC Main Meeting
14 - SEMCO meeting

JULY 2020
SHCC — NO Meeting
12 - SEMCO meeting

AUGUST 2020
SHCC — NO Meeting
9 - SEMCO meeting

Newsletter submissions are due 10 days before the club meeting, but the earlier the better. They should be sent to : newsletter@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

The President's Pen

by Don VanSyckel

President's Pen Quarantined for April

Wash Your Hands Of Coronavirus Scams

News and/or Opinion from Paul Baecker

Phishing scams abound to prey on our fears by using real and current threats. Hackers are pretending to offer COVID-19 info using methods that are filled with malware. Don't give in to them.

Know your sources (email, web site links) and only refer to ones with a good reputation for accuracy and verifiable facts. Avoid the spreading of rumors.

As always, don't click on links in suspicious emails. You can hover your mouse cursor over a link (without clicking on it) to see where it would take you by the web address notation in the lower left corner of your browser.

Be cautious about opening attachments. Even if you know the sender, the sender's email account could have been compromised and malicious messages sent out from it.

Check web site links for strange typos, added numerals, or anything that just doesn't look right.

How has the info been shared? Facebook posts, WhatsApp chains, and Tweets can be written/doctored by anyone.

A recent example of email malware was a phishing campaign targeting Italian email addresses, supposedly sent by the World Health Organization. It contained an attachment with a list of virus precautions. Once opened, the device (phone, tablet, PC) was compromised and personal info was taken from it.

Fake clones of the Johns Hopkins interactive COVID-19 map (find the REAL one in the WebPageReviews on page 13) are examples of a front for attackers to generate malicious files and install them on computers. This then enables them to steal personal browser data such as credit card details and site login passwords.

All of the usual precautions that you are using to safeguard yourself and your digital equipment still apply, including (but not limited to) using updated anti-virus and anti-spy/malware software.

Missed Out On The Toilet Paper Stampede? Here's What You Can Use Instead — At Least, Down Under

From the NewDaily web site

As Australia grapples with an ongoing toilet paper crisis, fears are growing of a worst-case scenario: Our supermarkets completely run out of rolls.

Given that most of our toilet paper is made by reliable suppliers in South Australia, this outcome is very unlikely to happen. But as the coronavirus claims more lives around the world, people are desperate to make sure they have enough back-up supply in case they get infected.

Before we panic even more, let's all take a deep breath and remind ourselves that most people around the world manage just fine without it. There is no doubt that Australians – along with most people in Western countries like the United Kingdom or Canada – are ride-or-die toilet paper users.

Going camping? Pack some toilet paper.
Music festival? Better take an emergency roll.
Backpacking? You never know when you'll need to go.

Heated debates between scrunchers and folders, or fights over the correct way to hang the toilet roll, have long divided our great nation, as well as others. It's no wonder, then, that as the coronavirus spreads, Australians are scrambling to stockpile enormous amounts of emergency toilet paper to last them through a period of self-quarantine. But maybe it's time to get out of our comfort zone and look for another way. After all, about four billion people – more than 70% of the world's population – *don't* use it.

So what are our alternatives?

Use a **bidet:**
The French got this one right. Bidets are common in parts of Europe.

Believed to have been invented in France in the early 1700s, a bidet is a type of sink next to the toilet in the bathroom. After you've done your business on the toilet, move over and sit on the bidet. Turn on the tap, adjust the temperature and let the warm water jets gently blast your bum. Delightful and a lot more effective than toilet paper. The only problem is bidets haven't exactly caught on in Aus-

*(Continued on page 9…...**Stampede)***

Who Wants to Be Average?

By Greg Skalka, President,
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A newspaper article on June 6 caught my attention: "Mobile Devices Used More Than TV". This premise did not surprise me much, considering how often I see people holding or manipulating their phones while driving. Still, since I'm interested in tech trends in general, I had to read it. While it was informative, it left me feeling that I am not at all an average American adult, and based on the information presented, I don't think I want to be.

The main point of the article was that according to a research firm, American adult use of mobile devices (smart phones, feature phones and tablets) will exceed the time they spend watching TV for the first time this year. The firm, eMarketer, predicted that time spent this year on mobile devices would exceed that of watching TV by 8 minutes per day. Mobile use was cited as a growing trend, as eMarketer claimed that American adults spent 9 minutes more in watching TV than on mobile devices last year, and two hours more than on mobile five years ago.

As I mentioned, this does not surprise me at all. While I do have a smart phone (which I've now had just over two years) and do find it a useful and in some instances an indispensable tool, I do feel the use of mobile phones by some people, and people in general, has become excessive. In some cases, it is way overboard, almost like an addiction. Perhaps my interest in technology and my relative detachment from mobile devices has made me more sensitive to those situations where people around me have become "mobile-excessive".

My wife has motion sensitivity issues and prefers to drive when we are in the car together, so I get frequent opportunities to carefully observe those operating motor vehicles around us. In spite of laws prohibiting their use while driving, it is amazing how often I see drivers blatantly holding their phones or driving with one hand in their laps while constantly looking down there (at hopefully a phone). It is especially telling at night when a glow can be seen coming from the driver's crotch.

Any public venue can be an opportunity to see unrestrained mobile device use. At the ball game, the fair, the movies or a concert, there will always be a large percentage of the people you see doing something with their phones. And not just casually, but often to the exclusion what is going on around them. Do people really buy tickets to a baseball game, and then spend the evening in the stands on Facebook? The most absurd scene, which I have seen several times, is the family out to dinner in a restaurant, and every family member is devoting all their attention to their own mobile device (and probably not texting each other). Thus it is not at all out of line to think that mobile device use is way up, as compared to TV use.

What was a bit shocking to me was the total number of hours cited in the article for daily use. eMarketer claimed that this year the average American adult would spend 3 hours and 43 minutes on a mobile device, and an additional 3 hours and 35 minutes watching TV, PER DAY. That's 7 hours and 18 minutes per day that an average American adult spends playing with a phone or tablet and watching TV. eMarketer predicts that in 2021, average TV usage will be down to 3 hours and 22 minutes, while mobile will by up to 3 hours and 54 minutes (remarkably down in total by 2 minutes). The article stated further that the mobile times did not include any voice call time. How does the average American adult manage to function in life while spending over seven hours a day on these devices?

To back up these crazy numbers, Nielsen, the data and measurement company (Nielsen TV ratings) provided similar numbers in the article. They listed four hours and 14 minutes of TV and 3 hours and 14 minutes of mobile device use by the average American adult in the third quarter of 2018. What is the average person doing on their smart phone for over three hours each day?

The article fortunately shed a bit of light on this, as eMarketer said they found that 30% of the mobile device time was spent on audio-related apps (radio, music, podcasts), 24% was on social networking and 19% was on video apps. It did not say what the remaining 26% was (again, not voice calls).

Keep in mind that these numbers are averages, so while there are some that use less, others amazingly will use more. In thinking about my own usage, I feel there must be someone in this country cursed with most of their day in front of these screens, as they must make up for my way below average usage. I estimate I only watch one hour of TV a day on average, and maybe spend 30 minutes a day on my phone. I am no doubt an outlier, as I don't go on the internet much on my phone. I find the screen is just too small for most web use. I choose to not receive emails on my phone for the same reason. I do text and use mapping apps. I'm not sure if having Google Maps running on my phone for the 20 minutes each way of my workday commute constitutes 40 minutes of mobile device use per day or not. I guess that if eMarketer counts time listening to music on a phone, then perhaps my daily mobile usage is more like an hour.

It is also possible that the TV viewing numbers are inflated by the way people use it as well. When I watch television, I give it my full attention, so my numbers are low, but I've seen from my wife that my way is not the only way. She tends to have the TV on as background

sound. Even when "watching", she is doing it while performing other activities (on the computer, cooking dinner, etc.). I'm pretty sure she has the TV on for more than four hours per day, but I can't be sure she watches it the whole time.

Even if that 7 hours plus of TV and mobile device use can be discounted somewhat by not having a person's full attention on the device, this total does leave off another tech device, the computer. By this, I mean a desktop or laptop, any computing device with a real keyboard (including Chromebooks). I would guess I spend an average 4.8 hours on a computer per day (6 hours per workday and maybe 2 hours each weekend day). If this is "average", then that poor average American adult spends about half the hours in a day, and 3/4 of their waking hours, with their face in front of a screen.

All of these devices be they mobile or fixed, computer or TV, are useful and beneficial when used in moderation. Misuse and overuse of anything can become a disorder and an addiction. Technology addiction is a real disorder, characterized by obsessive use of tech devices despite negative consequences. Too much video gaming, too much Facebook, too much internet can be an indicator of technology addiction.

When I come home after a workday spent predominantly on a computer, the last thing I typically want is to have another screen in front of me. We should all prefer to watch a nice sunset, rather than sunset videos. We should want to go home and play with our pooch, not watch puppy videos. We should all have more real face time with others, without screens and tech in between.

Forty years ago, when our group was started, people gathered together to ask questions and exchange information. Maybe there were a few Heath H-89 addicts, but they would have been the exception. Today the average tech user would rather perform a Google search for answers than ever ask a real person for help. I'll admit that the internet has way more information than any person or even a group, but it can be nice to just talk to someone. Talking to Alexa does not count.

This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups.

Are you getting bored, sitting at home with nothing to do, and mostly lousy shows on TV? It might be the perfect opportunity to take a peek at some recent **APCUG video presentations**. Maybe learn something new, maybe something that you can use right away. "Oh, cool. *THAT'S* how to do it!" Go here and click on 'videos' to see their vast collection: https://www.youtube.com/user/APCUGVideos/videos

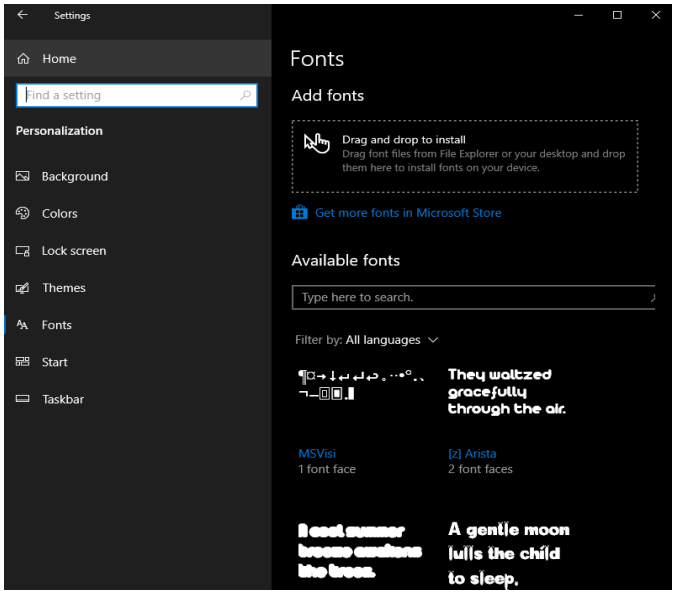
How To Add, Manage New Fonts In Windows 10

By Carol Bratt
https://davescomputertips.com

In earlier iterations of Windows, you had to go to your Control Panel to preview fonts, opening each one to manage them. In Windows 10 however, most of the font functions have been replaced with easier to use options.

Follow the steps below to see how:

- Click on **Settings** | **Personalization** | **Fonts**.
- The resulting redesigned **Fonts** page will display every installed font family. Not only that, there is a search box to filter the list! A three-line preview will show what each font looks like, and a line beneath the preview will display how may font faces are available to you.
- If you double-click a family icon, you will see the detailed metadata as well as a preview box where you can enter your own text to see what each variant (i.e., Italic, Bold, Bold Italic, etc.) looks like. You may use the slider to adjust the preview from 8 to 72 points in size.
- A box at the top of the Fonts page allows you to install fonts by dragging them from **File Explorer**. but the most interesting option is a link that will allow you to get new fonts from the Microsoft Store. This includes a section of **free fonts** as well.



Of course, you can still open Fonts in the old style if you choose to do so, although I don't know why you would, by opening the Run box by depressing your Windows key + R and key in the command shell:fonts.

This article is republished, with permission, from the DavesComputerTips web site.

Digital Transducers: What?

By Phil Sorrentino, Contributing Writer
The Computer Club, FL
http://www.scccomputerclub.org

Computer Input Devices are transducers. They convert the user's physical actions into commands that the computer can understand and use. Technically speaking, a transducer is a device that converts one form of energy to another form of energy. Energy types being electrical, mechanical, chemical, light, etc.

Transducers are often employed at the boundaries of automation, measurement, and control systems where electrical signals are converted to and from other physical quantities like force, torque, motion, position, etc. The process of converting one form of energy to another is known as transduction. For example, a pressure sensor (transducer) will detect pressure, a mechanical form of energy, and convert it to an analog electrical signal or digital data for display at a remote pressure gauge. But for this discussion, a transducer converts some action in our physical world to digital data to be used by our computer.

Also for the purpose of discussion, transducers can be divided into two areas, sensors and actuators. A sensor is used to detect one form of energy and report it in another form (most often an electrical signal). For example, a microphone detects sound energy (pressure differences) and reports it as electrical (analog or digital) signals. An actuator accepts energy and produces movement or an action. The energy supplied to an actuator could be electrical or mechanical. For example, an electric motor and a loudspeaker are both actuators, converting electrical energy into motion for different purposes. (If all is working well, the motor produces rotation and the loudspeaker produces sound.) Some transducers can provide both functions; they might both detect and create action. For example, a typical ultrasonic transducer switches back and forth many times a second between acting as an actuator to produce ultrasonic waves and acting as a sensor to detect the reflected ultrasonic waves. Another example might be a DC motor.

Normally electrical energy rotates the rotor of the motor, but using it another way, rotating a DC electric motor's rotor will produce electricity (a generator). And, believe it or not, the voice-coil of a speaker can also act as a crude microphone.

The two primary transducers (computer input devices) we currently use are mice (or is that mouses?) and keyboards. But, as you can tell from the large number of smartphones and tablets around, the touch-sensitive screen, or simply touchscreen, is also a very much used input device. A *mouse* lets the user move a pointer on a display, which allows the user to navigate and inspect the contents of a computer's file system. The mouse also lets the user launch and interact with programs. The other common device, the *keyboard*, translates the user's finger presses or keystrokes into text and commands that let the user interact with programs and perform a variety of functions. The newest transducer, the touchscreen, combines the functions of the mouse and the keyboard and turns finger pressure, location, and motion (gestures) into digital signals which in turn are used to control the smartphone or tablet software and hardware. Other common input devices include a microphone, a scanner, a webcam, a trackball and a trackpad. (There was also a "pointing stick" which I've seen on some older Lenovo [used to be IBM] and Dell laptops. If you'll recall, the *pointing stick* was a device that was used on a laptop mounted in the keyboard, usually between the G, H and B keys. Applying horizontal pressure on the pointing stick moved the cursor, up down, left, and right. Using the pointing stick was a little tricky, because the velocity of the movement of the cursor was proportional to the pressure applied to the pointing stick. As far as I can see, pointing sticks are not used any more, probably because the trackpad is easier to use, and more than likely, cheaper.)

Newer touchscreens can track the position and motion of more than one finger, sometimes as many as four fingers. These devices can support a wide range of gestures for navigating, launching, and performing other functions. Here are a few multi-finger gestures that can be used with Windows 10: Swipe three fingers up to see all of your open apps; Swipe three fingers down to show the desktop. Other gestures supported by Windows 10 are: Tap on the touchpad to Select an Item; Pinch in or stretch out two fingers to Zoom In or out; Place three fingers on the touchpad and swipe right or left to Switch between open windows.

One of the newest transducers being used for control may be one of the oldest transducers around; the *microphone*. The microphone, which converts voice (changes in air pressure) to digital signals, is being used in Voice Control systems like Cortana in Windows 10. Cortana is an App with which you can use your voice to make a call, send a text message, search the web, or open another App. Cortana can even help you: schedule a meeting, set a reminder, and get up-to-date weather or traffic. (Tap three fingers on a touchpad to open Cortana.)

There are also some specialized input devices like

game controllers, *graphics tablets*, and *motion-sensing devices*. Microsoft made a motion-sensing device called Kinect, which used a combination of a microphone, video camera, infrared light emitter, and infrared sensors to detect user's voice commands and motion. .Moving our bodies and speaking is fundamental to our nature, so Microsoft advertised that "Kenect allowed a computer user to interact with the computer without the need for a game controller, through a natural user interface using gestures and spoken commands." (Note from Microsoft: Manufacturing of the Kenect sensor and adapter has been discontinued, but the Kenect technology continues to live on in products like the HoloLens, Cortana voice assistant, the Windows Hello biometric facial ID system, and a context-aware user interface.)

Another, not so common, input device is a *MIDI keyboard*, which is typically a piano-style device used to create and record music by sending music signals over USB to a computer. The MIDI keyboard does not produce sound, but rather the digital signals that it produces from the user's finger movements are converted to sound in the computer by a software program.

There are even some very specialized and very complex input devices used in medical imaging systems. Some of these are computed tomography (CT) scanners, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners, and positron emission tomography (PET) scanners. All of these specialized devices are designed to convert changes in physical world parameters to digital data in order to let physicians see internal body structures such as tendons, muscles, joints, vessels, and organs beneath the skin to diagnose and treat injuries and illnesses.

So, as you can see, transducers play a pretty big role in letting our computers interface to us and our real world.

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System Monitoring Tools

By Frank Fota, Newsletter Editor
Fredericksburg PCUG, MD
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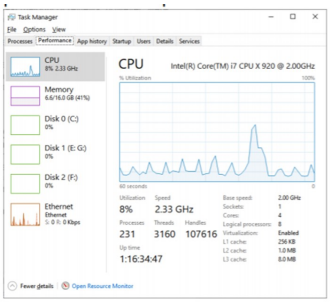
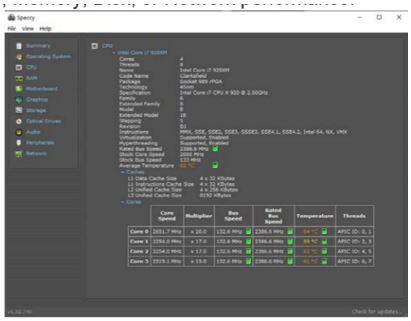
Have you ever wanted to view the impact a program has on your computer's performance? A quick internet search reveals that there are other many monitoring tools available. Some are freeware and others require payment. Resource monitoring tools are also bundled with system utilities (e.g., Norton Utilities). Microsoft Windows has a "**Resource Monitor**" that can be run from a Command Prompt or via the search box by typing, "perfmon.exe." Windows Resource Monitor is extensive but, difficult to configure. A quick look at resources can be found, however, by opening the Windows Task Manager (i.e., Ctrl-Alt-Del then click on Task Manager). Click on the Performance tab in Windows Task Manager and it's easy to see the effect that a program has on CPU, Memory, Disk, or Network performance.



If you need more details about the hardware on your PC (e.g., the effect a program has on CPU or GPU core temperatures), I recommend **Speccy**. Speccy is written and published by Piriform (now owned by Avast); the same company that developed CCleaner. According to Jeffrey Wilson, Lead Analyst for PC Magazine, "This utility serves up a wealth of data about your PC's operating system, attached peripherals, memory, storage, and much more."



If you are looking for a program that will overlay hardware statistics on top of a running game, you can install **MSI's Afterburner** program. It's compatible with both Nvidia and AMD's Radeon graphics cards.

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Other Computer Clubs

Updated info about other computer clubs in our area (whether with physical meetings or online meetups) can be viewed on the "Other Computer Clubs" page of your SHCC web site.

CD Players — Where Did They Go? What About All My Music CDs?

By Phil Sorrentino, Contributing Writer
The Computer Club, Florida
www.scccomputerclub.org // Philsorr@yahoo.com

CD players used to be all around us, well, at least they could be found in our computers and our automobiles, but not so anymore. In the age of streaming Netflix videos and Delivery of Software Applications by downloads, CD players have lost their significance. But if you feel you must have a CD player on your computer, you can add an external CD player. These types of devices will usually read and write CDs and DVDs. They are fairly inexpensive, around $30, and they connect to the computer using USB. (As always, the more USB ports on your computer, the better.)

In our automobiles, many domestic and foreign car models that used to have CD players as part of their infotainment center have eliminated the CD player. In its place, they have included a USB port, and they have included an MP3 player in the infotainment electronics. The MP3 player, in conjunction with the USB port, allows the entertainment center to play MP3 music from a flash memory device plugged into the USB port. That's all well and good, but how do you get your music onto a flash memory device? Fortunately, there is a simple answer – **Windows Media Player** (WMP). But before we look into how to use WMP, let's take a quick look at recorded music and a brief history thereof.

Recorded music began with Thomas Edison, who invented the phonograph in 1877. Initially, the music was stored on metal cylinders. The cylinders were replaced by disks, tape and finally CDs. The disks evolved from 78s to 45s and finally the 33&1/3 albums. Tapes developed from Reel-to-reel to 8 Track and finally the very popular tape cassettes. All of

these were developed to record analog" music and was the way we recorded and played back music until around the late 1980s.

During the 1980s, even before the release of the iPod, research was being done to develop methods of compressing digital music. (The iPod would eventually replace the Walkman, a device that almost every music lover owned.) The outcome of the research was the **.mp3** music file specification that allowed music files to be created that would be small enough to fit into the amount of memory that could be put into a portable device, in those days.

Large memory devices were not as available then, as they are now, so the size of a music file was very important. (By the way, there are other music file types, but .mp3 has become the de facto music standard.) The .mp3 file type is considered a lossy compressed file, meaning that there is some quality degradation in the resulting music. The amount of "loss" is established when the original uncompressed file is compressed. This is accomplished by the use of a "Quality" setting. The quality is indicated in "Kilobits per second" (kbps). A setting of 128 kbps is termed "near-CD" quality, which gives you a file size of about one-tenth the size of the original file, and sound quality that is quite impressive. A file that produces a higher quality will be larger, but I'd be surprised if those of us over 65 could tell the difference, so the near-CD quality is probably more than adequate.

The .mp3 file specification allows us to create music files that we can use on our devices but it is the **.wav** file that creates a music file that is an exact reproduction of the originally recorded music; this is what you find on music CDs. The .wav file contains all of the musical quality of the original performance. The .wav file contains the digital results of the analog music signal being sampled at a rate so as to include all frequencies that can be heard by the human ear. This sampling results in a digital representation of the original music. To be technical, this is called a *linear pulse-code modulation format*. When played on a CD player, the stream of digital information produces music exactly as it was originally performed. But these .wav files are fairly large; most music selections will create files in the 30 to 40 Mbytes range.

So now that we know about .wav and .mp3 file types, we can get back to Windows Media Player. WMP is a component of several Windows OS's including Windows 10, so everyone has a copy of WMP which is currently at version 12. WMP not only plays CDs and music files, but it is capable of "ripping" the tunes from a standard CD. ("Ripping", though it sounds horrible, is perfectly legal.) When you start WMP you will not have controls for ripping if there isn't a CD in the CD tray (you will see "No disk" under the Tools tab). Once you put a CD into the tray, the "Rip CD" and "Rip settings" controls will appear on the WMP toolbar.

Before you rip the CD, check that the settings are to

your needs. Click the down-facing arrow next to "Rip settings" to check a few of these settings. First, select "Format" and then check the box next to "MP3" in the pop-up window. Next, select "Audio Quality" and check your selection (128 Kbps is probably fine and it will create the smallest files). Next, select "More Options" and it will open a window for making "Rip Music" adjustments. The first adjustment is where the ripped files will be stored. If you want to change the destination, click "Change" and in the pop-up window navigate to the location of your choice. Next, on the Options Window, click "File Name". This is where you determine how the ripped music file will be named. Check the items that you want to be in the file name, like "Artist" and "Song title", move the items up or down to get the right sequence. Next, choose the "Separator" like space or dash. The "Preview" shows the choices that have been made. (I typically name the files "Artist dash Song title".) Click OK on the "File Name Options" window. The other two Rip settings, Format and Quality, have already been set up so now you're good to go. Click "OK" in the Options window to get back to the main WMP window. Now all you have to do is click "Rip CD" and let 'er rip. When you originally put the CD into the tray, all tunes were selected. If you don't want a particular tune ripped, uncheck the box next to the tune's name. The "ripped status" will show how the process is proceeding.

When all the tunes are ripped, you will find them in the location that you set up in the Rip settings. They will be in a folder with the name of the artist or CD. Using File Explorer, move the tunes to your permanent "Music" folder. From here, you can put them on a flash memory device for use in your car, or put them directly into any of your devices, like a tablet, a music player, your smartphone, or another computer.

Now you're ready to take advantage of the music you previously purchased for a CD player on any of your other devices.

This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups.

Door Prize Winners!

March 2020

Evelyn Chereson — Power strip
Phil Reynaud — Flash drive
Rich Monk — Inspection flash light
Sue Sullivan — Earbuds
Edlynn Rehn — DVDs
Richard Jackson — Microfiber cloth set
Don Combs — Sharpie set
Bill Kramer — Wire tie set
Walter Jendhoff — DVD spindle
Paul Baecker — Scratch awl

*(**Stampede**…..Continued from page 3)*

tralia yet.

Use a **bidet shower:**
A bidet shower, affectionately dubbed a 'bum gun', is a hand-held triggered nozzle located near the toilet. It delivers a steady spray of water that you can guide over your derrière while you're still seated. Genius – and cheaper to install than a full-blown bidet.

Use a **tabo:**
The tabo (pronounced TAH-boh) is a traditional Filipino hygiene tool. Like us and toilet paper, most Filipinos can't imagine doing a Number Two without it. Similar to 'dippers' used in other South-East Asian countries, the tabo is a small, plastic bucket-shaped scoop with a handle. It usually comes with a 'timba', a large plastic bucket that is filled with water. The tabo and timba are kept in the bathroom. After you've used the toilet, scoop up some water with the tabo and slowly pour it over your backside again and again until you feel clean.

Some people use soap and water with their free hand to rub into those hard-to-reach places.

Use a **lota**:
A lota is a small water vessel made of brass, copper or plastic. It is mainly used in south Asia and Muslim-majority countries like Indonesia and Pakistan. With your right hand, take the water-filled lota and point the spout near your bum. Lean forward so the water starts to flow steadily. Once the water is flowing, use your left hand to wash around until you're nice and clean.

Use a **gompf stick** … if you dare:
Long before toilet paper was invented in the 1850s, people used a nifty tool called a gompf stick. Also called a sponge stick, gompf sticks are basically just a sponge on a stick that is used to clear away excess poo. It is placed in a tub of salt water and is shared by multiple people. Plenty of different versions were used throughout history. It is believed the Vikings used gompf sticks made of sheep's wool, while the wealthy French used a fancy version made of lace, wool and hemp. In the Middle Ages, most of them were made from hay balls. Ouch.

This article is borrowed as a PSA from the NewDaily web site.

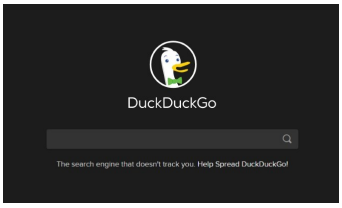
The 5 Best Search Engines That Respect Your Data

By Simon Batt
https://www.makeuseof.com

Finding a search engine that's both effective and not hell-bent on selling on your information is hard. Fortunately, they do exist, and there are plenty of them for you to choose from.

Here are some of the best private search engines available that won't use you as a product.

1. DuckDuckGo



What better way to start this list than the default search engine for the Tor browser? The US-based DuckDuckGo is a fantastic choice for anyone who wants to *keep their privacy intact* while searching the internet.

DuckDuckGo doesn't sell any personal information, because it never stores it in the first place. If DuckDuckGo is asked to hand over data by the government, they will comply; however, given they store no information whatsoever, it'd be a very sparse database.

Because DuckDuckGo doesn't sell your data, it does need alternate means of making revenue. It shows you advertisements, but the ads are related to what you just searched for. They don't track your searches to make an ad-based profile for you.

Unfortunately, DuckDuckGo uses Yahoo's search results. This means that those used to Google's efficient search results may find DuckDuckGo a little lackluster.

2. Startpage

If you'd prefer a search engine that's more like Google, try the Netherlands-based Startpage. It uses Google search results, which is great if you find DuckDuckGo's results lacking. Startpage achieves this by paying Google for its search results, then uses them for its own service that doesn't harvest your information.

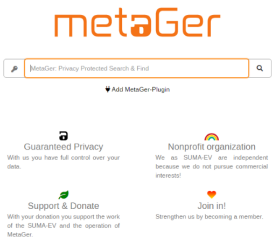
Startpage also takes a lot of care with search recommendations. Typically, a search engine will recommend search terms as you type based on what other people are searching for. However, this does require the search engine to harvest personal information, which Startpage doesn't support.

Instead, Startpage matches your search to terms in the dictionary, on Wikipedia, or general phrases that contain your search results. This allows Startpage to help you find what you're looking for without resorting to harvesting prior searches.

Startpage uses a cookie on your browser to save your preferences. If you'd prefer that it didn't create a cookie, Startpage offers an alternative: a custom URL that loads up your settings once clicked. This means even the most paranoid web surfer can simply bookmark the URL without it leaving a trace on your PC.

Searching anonymously is one thing, but what if you could also visit the pages without revealing your information? This is what Startpage does to help secure your privacy. If you click "Anonymous View" next to any search result, Startpage will route your traffic through a proxy server, so you never reveal your identity to the website. This makes Startpage one of the best anonymizing search engines available.

3. MetaGer

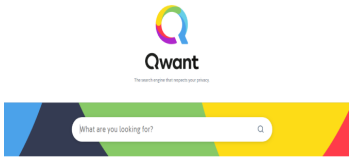


MetaGer is a German-based, privacy-focused, search engine. Like Startpage, MetaGer also uses proxy-server technology to hide your location when you visit a website.

When you search for a term on MetaGer, you'll notice an additional option underneath each result called "Open Anonymously." When clicked, MetaGer will set up a proxy server and direct the website you want through it. Because MetaGer is the source of your query, your visit remains anonymous.

Unfortunately, MetaGer is quite bare-bones for settings and options, and it uses Scopia and Bing for its search results. However, unlike some search engines, MetaGer operates as a not-for-profit organization supported by donations. This is good news for anyone who won't trust a business that has a profit-seeking motive.

4. Qwant



Qwant is a French-based search engine that's packed full of features. However, some of these features require your location or your personal details. That means it's not an ideal pick for people who want the utmost privacy.

Despite this, if you want a search engine that has it all but doesn't store your search history, Qwant is the best free private search engine for you.

You can spot a wide range of features the moment you

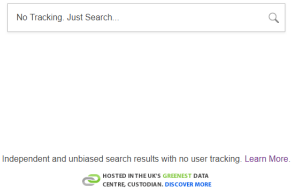
load its home page. Qwant has a music search engine, a "Junior" version for kids, a Maps feature, and news along the bottom of the page. From my experience, the news seemed to be somewhat local to my city, which may signal location tracking. However, it could have also been a coincidence.

You can also enable "Qoz," a form of currency that accumulates as you search. Accumulated Qoz converts into a donation to a charitable cause at the end of every month—a nice side effect of using Qwant.

All of these features do raise a question: how does Qwant run these features while also respecting your privacy? For the Qoz feature, Qwant says they don't track what you search, just how many times you searched. For some, this amount of tracking is enough to put them off using the feature. Thankfully, you can disable Qoz if you don't like the idea of your searches being tallied.

However, if you don't mind a little additional tracking in exchange for some more features, Qwant does fill a niche without selling your details on. This makes Qwant a nice "midway point" between the humble privacy-respecting search engines and the extravagant, powerful, yet financially-driven ones.

5. Mojeek



You may have noticed a pattern with the previous search engines, where they rely on other, more powerful search engines to get results. If this is a major problem for you, you might prefer a search engine that generates its own results.

This is what Mojeek, a UK-based search engine, does best. Instead of utilizing somebody else's search engine, Mojeek uses their own to ensure that your privacy is respected. As a result, the search results you get won't be perfect; after all, Mojeek has to contend with the competition that has been around for years!

Despite this, Mojeek is the best private web search engine for results that aren't influenced by a larger company. Mojeek themselves call their search results "independent and unbiased," which should resonate with people who don't want larger companies sculpting their browsing experience.

Startpage vs. DuckDuckGo

The two big giants in the private search world are Startpage and DuckDuckGo. We have already covered what they can do by themselves, but how do they hold up against one another?

If you like the idea of a built-in proxy for anonymous browsing, the winner is Startpage. Its ability to load a proxy server in moments and view the webpage in secret is extremely valuable for people with privacy concerns.

Also, Startpage did seem to get better results as a whole. This is likely due to Startpage using Google's search algorithms, while DuckDuckGo has to rely on Yahoo.

However, DuckDuckGo wins in one category: it's open source. Unlike Startpage which locks their search behind proprietary code, you can check for yourself if DuckDuckGo is as private as they claim to be. DuckDuckGo's GitHub page contains all its code, available to anyone who want to compile it.

As a result, Startpage's search results and built-in proxy server make it a formidable private search engine. On the other hand, DuckDuckGo lays everything bare so you can see what's going on under the hood. In the end, it's up to you to decide what search engine is best. The Best Private Search Engines for Your Needs

If you're big on privacy, you'll be pleased to know that there are plenty of search engines that respect your private data. Not only that, but they each bring something new to the table, which means there's a search engine out there for everyone's needs.

This article is republished, with permission, from the MakeUseOf web site.

"COVID-19 Tracker" App Delivers Ransomware

News and/or Opinion by Paul Baecker

A new Covid-19 tracking app has been identified online as well as on TV news broadcasts as a carrier for the **CovidLock** ransomware. If downloaded and run, it will lock your Android device and offer you the opportunity of paying their monetary ransom to unlock it. A recent Wall Street Journal article suggested that of people who pay the respective ransom for similar attacks, only 47% actually receive the passcode to remove the ransomware. The rest of the victims are left with an unusable device. See a web link among the WebPageReviews on page 13.

However, in the case of this CovidLock ransomware attack, there is a code that apparently removes it. A respective web link is also on page 13.

What Happened to Control Panel?

By Phil Sorrentino, Contributing Writer
The Computer Club, Florida
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philsorr@yahoo.com

Way back in the days of Windows 7, the Control Panel was the way we adjusted the operation of certain parts of the Operating System. Control Panel was easily found because it was in a short list of options when you clicked the Start button. When you clicked "Control Panel," you were presented with a set of Apps (originally called Applets), that would allow you to change the way certain features operated. (To get this list you had to choose "View by Icons" rather than "View by Categories.") The list of Apps included Display, Keyboard, Mouse, System, Default Programs, Power Options, Programs and Features, Folder Options, Network and Sharing, Device Manager, just about all the features that you can adjust. Maybe the statement at the top of the set of Apps was prophetic in its language. The Apps were introduced by a text line that said, "Adjust your computer's settings."

And maybe the thought of Settings was carried over from the Smartphone world (i.e. Apple's iOS and Google's Android) just about when Windows 10 was being developed. No matter how it evolved, Settings seems to be the preferred term for the place to go to change the way the device operates.

"Settings" has become a common feature on many computing devices. It even shows up on other things like electric ovens, exercise machines, thermostats, and kitchen appliances. So now Settings is the place to set many of the features of Windows 10. Yes, Control Panel still exists, but it is not as apparent, or easy to find. It seems like it has been moved to different places in different Windows 10 editions. But, fortunately, you can always find it just by clicking the "Type here to Search" circle next to the Start button, and then typing "Control" into the Search bar.

You may not even have to go to Control Panel for most of the things you may want to change, because clicking Settings will more than likely get you there. And Settings is very easy to find: just click the Start button and the Settings icon, which looks like a gear, appears right above the Power icon. Click the icon and you will be shown all the Settings categories. Just to add a little confusion, these new categories are not the same categories that are used in Control Panel, although some of the titles will be familiar. The Settings screen on one of my machines is as shown here:

Notice that they are not in alphabetical order. Note, too, that **System** is the first category, so Microsoft must consider these to be important settings. Here are the items in the System category:

Display. Here you will find Display-related information and settings. The first setting is "Night light," which allows you to set a schedule for the Night Light and set the "Color temperature at night." The introduction explains that "Screens emit blue light, which can keep you up at night." So, by using warmer colors, there may be less interference with your sleep. (I'm only the messenger.) Here is where you can "Change the size of text, apps, and other items," if so desired. The Resolution of the display is another setting that can be changed. (Keep in mind that if you choose a higher resolution, the text and pictures on the screen will be smaller, so if you want larger items on the screen, you will have to lower the Resolution. I know that sounds counter-intuitive.)

Sound is where you choose your output or input devices, volume, manage your sound devices and troubleshoot those devices.

Notifications & Actions is where you set up the Quick Actions, the icons you see when you click the Action Center icon at the right-hand end of the taskbar. (Clicking the Action Center icon also shows you any notifications that are available.) This is also where you get to determine the notifications you can receive, and who can send you notifications.

Focus Assist is where you can choose which notification you'd like to see and hear so you can stay focused. The rest will go straight to the action center where you can see them any time.

Power & Sleep. You can customize how long the screen will stay on after the last keystroke, and when the computer will go into the sleep mode. If you have a laptop, these settings are made for both "On battery power" and "When plugged in."

Battery. Here you will see a battery charged percentage indication and if you click "Battery usage by app," you will see how the battery is being used by various Apps. Battery saving options are also shown here.

Storage is where you can see the size of each local storage device (drive) and how much is being used. There are also a few storage related items here such as "Change how we free up space," and "Manage Storage Spaces." You will probably want to customize these options. You will also find "Change where new content is stored," which determines where various file types, like documents, music, and pictures will be stored.

Tablet mode optimizes your device for a touch screen so you don't have to use a keyboard and mouse. Multitasking gives you control of the "Snap" feature, that is the ability to snap windows into half the overall screen. This can be useful if you want to Copy & Paste between two documents.

Projecting to this PC gives you the ability to wire-

lessly project some Windows and Android devices to your device. If you give presentations, turn on "This PC can be discovered for projection only when it's plugged in."

Shared Experiences lets Apps on other devices open and message apps on your device, and vice versa. This feature improves the ability to share documents and apps among all of your devices and may or may not be useful to you.

Clipboard. You can save multiple items to the clipboard to use later as well as sync them across devices, pin frequently used items, and clear the clipboard data. Remote Desktop lets you connect and control your PC from a remote device by using a remote desktop client. Note: You never want to enable this unless you completely trust the person who wants to take over control of your PC. You might do this if someone you know and trust is trying to help you with something and they are at a remote location.

About contains a lot of device specification information. This is where you will find hardware information such as Device name (with the ability to change the name), Processor type, Amount of memory, and the system type, 64bit or 32 bit. Here you will also find Software information such as the Windows 10 edition, like Windows Home or Pro, and the version number.

"Settings" is a very important and comprehensive part of Windows 10. In this article, we have only reviewed the first category, *System*; there are 12 more categories full of various types of settings.

This article has been obtained from APCUG with the author's permission for publication by APCUG member groups.

C&G Publications Suspend Delivery

News and/or Opinion by Paul Baecker

This news may disappoint some newspaper readers, as well as please others.

C&G Newspapers distributes several periodicals in our local communities, such as the Clinton-Fraser Chronicle, Sterling Heights Sentinel, Macomb Township Chronicle, and others in Shelby-Utica, Troy, Warren, and elsewhere. These free weekly newspapers that almost everyone receives with their USPS snail-mail have temporarily suspended delivery.

Individual publications can still be viewed at their web site address noted in the column to the right. I particularly enjoy reading about the stupid criminals in the 'Crime Watch' sections.

Web Page Reviews Overload

(Web sites that did not fit on page 14)

Centers for Disease Control info regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) condition.
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fprevention.html

What the Michigan government is doing regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.
https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus

Latest disease research information is here at NIH..
https://www.nih.gov

Johns Hopkins University of Medicine offers a comprehensive interactive map of the global COVID-19 spread.
https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html

EPA lists disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2 (the novel coronavirus that causes the disease COVID-19).
https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2

How to use the **Resource Monitor** in Windows 10.
https://www.digitalcitizen.life/how-use-resource-monitor-windows-7

Why do routers have USB ports?
https://www.maketecheasier.com/why-do-routers-have-usb-port

How to run Android apps and games on Linux.
https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/run-android-apps-games-linux/

COVID-19 Tracker app delivers **CovidLock** ransomware to your Android device. Always research apps before installing them.
https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2020/03/16/fake-covid-19-tracker/

Article describes how to remove the **CovidLock** ransomware from your Android device.
https://howtoremove.guide/covidlock/

Ten ad blocking extensions tested for best performance.
https://www.raymond.cc/blog/10-ad-blocking-extensions-tested-for-best-performance/

View the various Chronicle and Sentinel community newspapers distributed around south-east Michigan.
https://www.candgnews.com/publications/

ClearURLs is a privacy add-on for Firefox and Chrome that strips tracking parts of URLs from links automatically so that they don't fire when you activate them.
https://www.ghacks.net/2019/07/30/clearurls-extension-firefox-chrome/

Web Page Reviews

by Paul Baecker — webwatch@sterlingheightscomputerclub.org

This column attempts to locate sites containing valuable, amusing, and free content, with no overbearing pressure to purchase anything.
Club members only **are encouraged to submit favorite sites (a description is optional) to the e-address noted above, for inclusion in a future WYSIWYG issue. Also check the SHCC web site ("*Web Page Reviews*") for previous gems.**

Is your router safe? 3 ways hackers can attack your home router.
https://www.maketecheasier.com/ways-hackers-attack-home-routers/

How to quickly avoid fake news during an unfolding crisis.
https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/quickly-avoid-fake-news-unfolding-crisis/

How to crop a video with the free **Avidemux** program (for Windows, Linux, Apple OS's).
https://davescomputertips.com/how-to-crop-a-video-with-avidemux/

Your ISP (Comcast, WOW, ATT, etc.) may be using your router as a *public hotspot*. Is this safe for you? Does it compromise your network, your data, your bandwidth? What can you do about it?
https://www.maketecheasier.com/use-router-as-hotspot

Who wants to read outdated info on the web? When you visit a web site to read an article, how old is its content? You can often view the publishing date at the top or bottom of the article. But without that obvious date stamp, there are other ways to determine the article's age.
https://www.maketecheasier.com/find-out-webpage-published-date/

Walk-thru review of Microsoft's **New Edge** browser, which will install on your Windows PC soon (April 2020) via the Windows 10 Update "2004 Edition". Also works with Windows 7/8.1, macOS, iOS, and Android.
https://www.windowscentral.com/microsoft-edge-review

Your phone talks about you behind your back. Researchers have determined that more than 1,000 apps have been found to take data even after you've denied them permissions. What can you do about it? Don't use the apps.
https://www.cnet.com/news/your-phone-talks-about-you-behind-your-back-these-researchers-are-listening-in/

If you have set up a dual-boot system with Windows and Linux, you probably see Linux as the default boot OS. The free **Grub Customizer** program allows you to change the boot order of the operating systems.
https://itsfoss.com/grub-customizer-ubuntu/

There are reasons why you wouldn't want to, or can't, use Google Maps, perhaps simply because you just don't want Google algorithms profiting off your data. Here some alternate mapping tools.
https://www.maketecheasier.com/google-map-alternatives/

World Health Organization: Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic information.
https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

How to keep Windows running when laptop lid is closed, instead of it going to sleep.
https://www.maketecheasier.com/keep-windows-running-laptop-lid-closed/

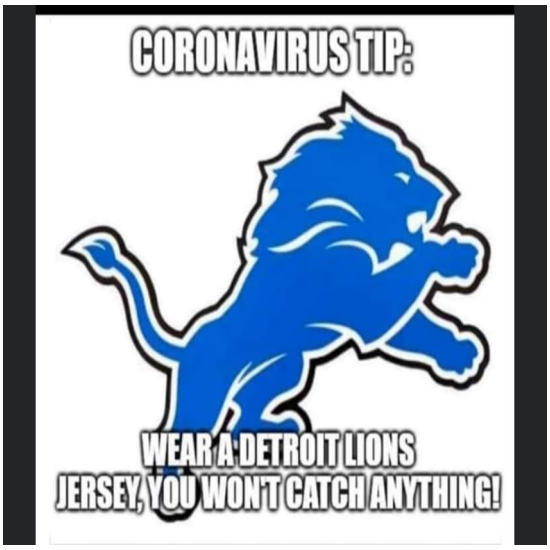
Fact-checking sites for finding unbiased truth. It requires extra work by you, but the best approach is to confirm your news content using *multiple sources*.
https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/true-5-factchecking-websites/

How to print documents from your Android phone.
https://www.maketecheasier.com/print-documents-from-android-phone

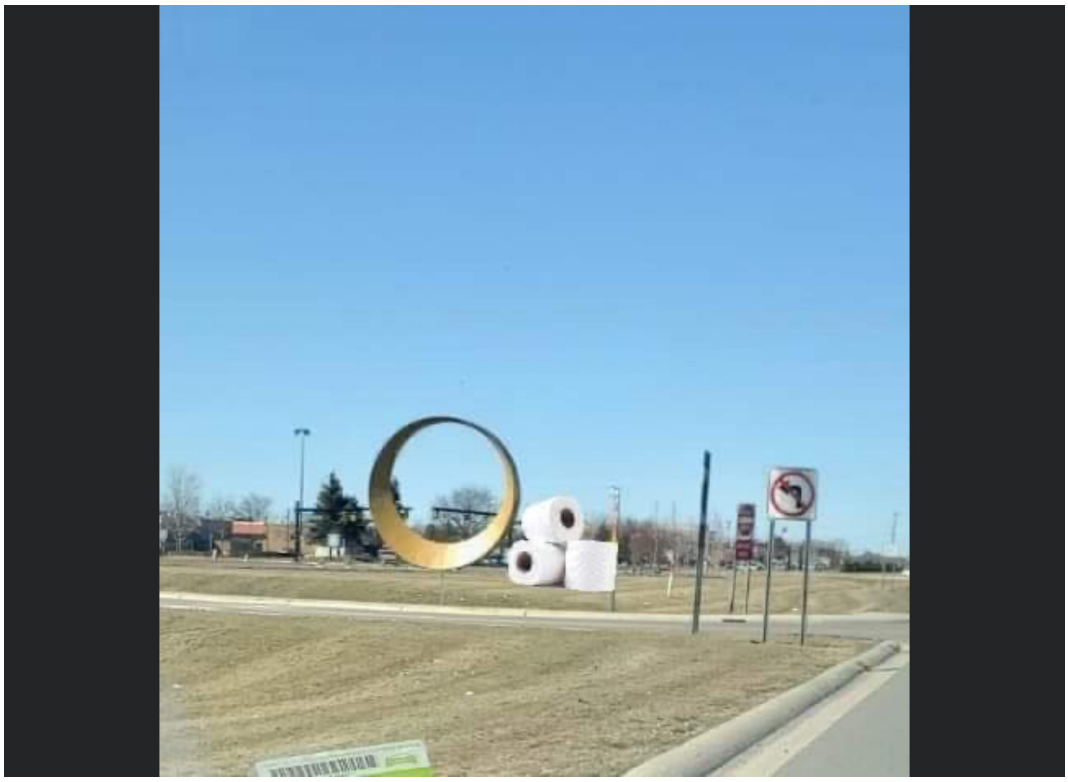
NOTE: Many of the links in the digital newsletter connect to the Internet if clicked. For those that do not, copy and paste the link into your Internet browser.

Web Watch Column on the Club Web Site

Check out the ***WebPageReviews*** section on the club's web site. There you can see past web sites reviewed in this column. They are arranged into various *keyword* categories to help locate a specific topic or site.



(If necessary, ask someone who lives in Sterling Heights to explain.)



Some people aren't shaking hands because of the Coronavirus. I'm not shaking hands because everyone is out of toilet paper.

I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.

The people who say "You don't need that much ammo" are buying 500 rolls of toilet paper

As I watch this generation try to rewrite history, one thing I'm sure of.... it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.

Me after I eat all of my quarantine snacks in one night

It was a quiet Monday morning in September 2053, when John awoke with a need to go to the bathroom. To John this wasn't just any ordinary day! This was the day he would open the last package of toilet paper his parents bought in the year 2020.