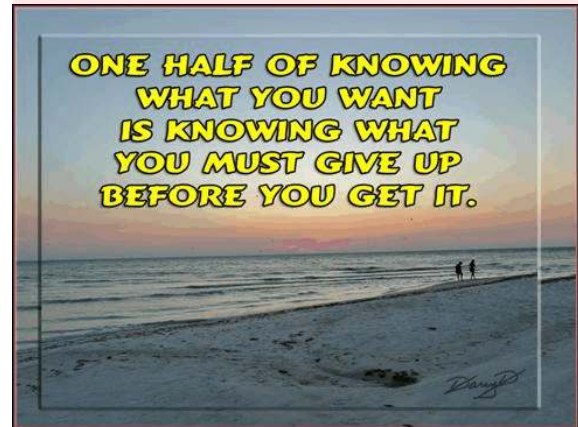




YOUR COMPUTER IS A RESOURCE, NOT AN OUTCOME.
December 10, 2007

CONTENTS

[Battle Hymn of the Republic](#)
[Chat Room Abbreviations](#)
[Computer Defined](#)
[Cyberwarfare Warning From McAfee](#)
[Flip Camcorder](#)
[Florida's New State Song?](#)
[Google Searches Get Malware](#)
[Hillsborough County Economic Reports](#)
[LCD Prices Tumble](#)
OE: [Can Not Display Message](#)
Palms: [New Pest Arrival](#)
[Pearl Harbor](#), December 7, 1941
[Presidential Campaign Contributors](#)
[Sling Media's Slingbox](#)
[Uninsured Drivers Solution](#)
Windows XP: [Outshines Vista](#)
Windows Vista: [Outshined by XP](#)
[Winters Long Ago](#)
[Wireless Router Hijacking](#)
[Wireless Security Tips](#)



¹ Editors: PegEgg Eggleston, Dick Evans & Parker Monroe. Permission for reproduction in whole or in part is granted to organizations for internal, non-profit use provided credit is given to the author along with the copyright notice: Article reprinted with permission. Copyright © 2007 Darryl D Eggleston, <http://DarrylD.com>.

PEARL HARBOR

Darry D Eggleston

On Sunday, 7 December 1941, the U.S. Naval base, known as Pearl Harbor, on Oahu Island, Hawaii, was attacked by Japanese naval and air forces.

By conducting the attack on Sunday, Admiral Nagumo, the Japanese commander, hoped to catch the entire fleet in port. Fortunately, the aircraft carriers and one of the battleships were not in port. (The *USS Enterprise* was returning from Wake Island, where it had just delivered some aircraft. The *USS Lexington* was ferrying aircraft to Midway. The *USS Saratoga* and *USS Colorado* were undergoing repairs in the U.S.)



The attack was by 353 Japanese planes in two waves.

Nagumo had a force of six carriers and 423 aircraft. At a range of 230 miles north of Oahu, he launched the first wave of a two-wave attack. Beginning at 6 a.m., his first wave consisted of 183 fighters and torpedo bombers which struck the fleet in Pearl Harbor and the airfields in Hickam, Kaneohe and Ewa. The second wave of 167 aircraft, launched at 7:15 a.m., struck the same targets.

The attack lasted two hours.

At 7:53 a.m., the first wave of 40 Nakajima B5N2 "Kate" torpedo bombers, 50 Aichi D3A1 "Val" dive bombers, 50 high altitude bombers and 43 Zeros struck airfields and Pearl Harbor. The second wave struck at 8:25 a.m.

The results:

1. 2,403 U.S. dead; 1,000 U.S. wounded in action, and
2. 21 U.S. ships sunk or damaged, and
3. 188 U.S. planes were destroyed; 159 were damaged.

The Japanese failed:

1. No US aircraft carriers hit (none were in the harbor), and
2. No damage to dry docks, and
3. No damage to petroleum, oil and lubricant (POL) storage.

WIRELESS ROUTER HIJACKING

“How I Hacked Your LinkSys Router Which You Probably Bought at Best Buy,”
Shandy King, < <http://tinyurl.com/yrqwm9> >, February 18th, 2007

This is the story of how a normal person encoded his neighbor’s Linksys wireless router. Thus, only he — and not his neighbor who owned the router — was permitted to access it wirelessly.

The unintentional intrusion demonstrates, once again, how vulnerable your wireless router can be until you take aggressive action to protect it.

Please, *make* the time to read how to setup your wireless router in my *ExcelNet News* at <http://darryd.com/ExcelNet/XL071201.pdf>.

LCD PRICES TUMBLE

“Sometimes, it pays to wait. The average selling price of a 42-inch LCD TV so far this year is \$1,350, down from \$1,685 last year and \$3,738 in 2005, says the NPD Group, a technology-research firm.” *Orlando Sentinel*, Nov. 28, 2007

CHAT ROOM ABBREVIATIONS

Don Miller, [Greater Tampa Bay PC User Group](#)

So, are your kids and grandkids driving you crazy with emails containing abbreviations that you don’t understand?

Here’s a website you can visit that contains most of the frequently used abbreviations: <http://tinyurl.com/ahxpx>.

Use it as a reference, but remember not to use them with others who might have no idea what you’re talking about.

SLING MEDIA'S SLINGBOX

From *eMonitor*, the newsletter of the Computer Club of Oklahoma City, December 2007, p. 4 < <http://tinyurl.com/ytlbk3> >.

“Another interesting topic was the Sling Media’s Slingbox. This set top box allows the reception of live TV, satellite and DVR video [“digital video recorder” also known as “personal video recorder”] with high quality output. They demonstrated using a Slingbox to pick up TV over the Internet and project it on our large screen. A number of TV programs can be picked up on your laptop and projected on the television set in your motel room. We watched a portion of [the TV show] ‘The Price is Right’ during their presentation.”

Since the demonstration was made by CompUSA, here is the webpage that will give you more info about the product: <http://tinyurl.com/2g6ual>.

WIRELESS SECURITY TIPS

Hilton Head Island Computing Club’s *Island Computing*, December 2007

- Follow these tips to keep your data safe when using wireless networks:
- If you use WEP encryption, change your encryption key once a month. If someone manages to learn your key, he will be locked out again when you change it. WPA encryption is more secure.
 - Don’t connect to unprotected wireless networks— it’s possible for someone to monitor your Internet usage and even record your passwords.
 - If you do connect to an unprotected wireless network, don’t visit a Web site that requires a password unless the Web site is encrypted. To find out if it’s encrypted, look for a lock symbol in the lower-left corner of your browser.

Note from Darry D: I recommend setting your security to WPA. You can discover how to begin that process by reading the article, “Setting a Wireless Router,” in the December 1st edition of the *ExcelNet News* found at <http://darryd.com/ExcelNet/XL071201.pdf>.

WINDOWS XP OUTSHINES VISTA

According to News.com < <http://tinyurl.com/2gfswo> > on November 27, “New tests revealed that Windows XP with the beta Service Pack 3 (SP3) has *twice* the performance of Vista, even with its long-awaited SP1.

“Vista’s first service pack, to be released early next year, is intended to boost the operating system’s performance. However, when Vista with the Service Pack 1 (SP1) beta was put through benchmark testing by researchers at Florida-based software development company Devil Mountain Software, the improvement was not overwhelming, leaving the latest Windows iteration outshined by its predecessor.

“Vista, both with and without SP1, performed notably slower than XP with SP3 in the test, taking over 80 seconds to complete the test, compared to the beta SP3-enhanced XP’s 35 seconds.

“Vista’s performance with the service pack increased less than 2% compared to performance without SP1 — much lower than XP’s SP3 improvement of 10%.”

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

Dave Lee



Did you ever wonder which of your neighbors are making contributions to presidential campaigns, to whom they are contributing and how much?

Visit the *New York Times* at <http://tinyurl.com/3yxghg> to view contributions of \$200 or more to presidential candidates through September 30, 2007, as reported to the Federal Election Commission.

Type in your zip code and there are the contributors by name, amount given and to whom it was given.

UNINSURED DRIVERS SOLUTION?

According to the *New York Times* (12/4/07), 25% of California drivers are uninsured. California's insurance commissioner, Stephen Poizner, has filed a proposed ballot initiative that would crack down on drivers who do not have car insurance. The initiative would enable police officers to remove the front and back license plates from the cars of uninsured drivers after issuing an insurance citation. For seven days, the plate-less cars could travel in California legally. Then police would impound the vehicles.

According to the World Net Daily < <http://tinyurl.com/2gsgj4> >, while the Census Bureau estimates there are 9 million illegal aliens living in the U.S., other sources say its closer to 20 million. The best guesses on the number of unlicensed motorists: 17 million.

In addition, the states with the most illegal aliens also have the most unlicensed drivers. Those states are also in the lead for the most hit-and-run accidents, according to reports by the Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the Pew Hispanic Center. California ranks at the top with 24.1% of the known 11.1 million illegal aliens.

CYBERWARFARE WARNING FROM MCAFEE

Carolyn Hunter, "McAfee Report Issues Stark Cyberwarfare Warning," SC magazine, 11/29/2007

McAfee's annual "Virtual Criminology Report," says the world faces a cyber cold war over the next decade; 120 countries around the world are conducting cyber espionage operations. The operations target the military, political, economic, and technical arenas. The Chinese deny allegations that it is at the forefront of an impending cyber cold war. The report had input from the UK's Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), NATO, and the FBI.

Many governments targeted by cyber spies are unaware of the threats and are vulnerable to progressively refined cyberattacks. Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/2x6p4g>.

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

<http://www.greatdanepro.com/Battle%20Hymn/>

The Battle Hymn of the Republic as produced by a group of high school musicians with awe-inspiring graphics. It takes three minutes of your time but it may be the most beautiful of your day.

After reading the introduction, left-click on it to begin the show.

WINTERS LONG AGO

Sue Green

God gives many talents to many people.

This painter who created the scenes depicted at this website takes one to an earlier time in this country.

The artist who created the slideshow spared no efforts to present a nostalgic trip into the past, awakening in the mind's eye journeys into the yester-years of a simpler life.

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/2dcxce>. (It takes a moment to load.)

Left-click on the opening credits to begin the show.

COMPUTER DEFINED

TUGNET (The Users Group Network, Granada Hills, CA, December 2007)

First we thought the personal computer was a calculator.

Then we found out how to turn numbers into letters with ASCII — and we thought it was a typewriter.

Then we discovered graphics, and we thought it was a television.

With the World Wide Web, we've realized it's a brochure.



OE: CANNOT DISPLAY MESSAGE

Ted Wirtz, Orange County (California) IBM PC Users' Group

I don't know if you have been following the threads in Google Groups about Outlook Express and the "Message could not be displayed" error that occurs after using OE for a while < <http://tinyurl.com/yrttvw> >, but the source of the problem has been identified.

The culprit? McAfee Site Advisor.

An automatic update was sent to all users of Site Advisor on or about 9/15/07. The problem surfaced immediately thereafter, but of course nobody really knew what had happened, because Site Advisor works with browsers on search pages, not with mail or news readers. But — it appears some components of OE share DLL'S with IE, so although the update was intended for IE (and Firefox), OE was impacted.

Microsoft has determined (among others) that it is a McAfee problem, and is advising those with the problem to contact McAfee.

So far, absolutely nothing from McAfee. Numerous people have e-mailed McAfee concerning the problem, but so far, no resolution or updates. In fact, no acknowledgment that the problem even exists.

If you un-install Site Advisor, I understand you get a dialog asking why you are uninstalling it. A number of people have specifically stated the problem in the dialog, which presumably is forwarded to McAfee during the uninstall process.

There appears to be two solutions;

1. Remove Site Advisor, *or*
2. Set Outlook Express' reader to read in text only, disabling HTML. That change is needed whether you use OE as a news reader or for e-mail. This is a work-around, it doesn't cure the root problem.

Now the ball is in McAfee's court. Let's see what if anything they do to cure the problem.

The superior man, when resting in safety,
does not forget that danger may come.

Confucius

FLIP CAMCORDER

Darry D & PegEgg Eggleston

Recently, we've been having the most fun recording everything in sight. Our friends, Bev and Chuck, gave us a Flip Camcorder for Christmas.

Featured on the Oprah Winfrey (TV) show, *USA Today* and the *New York Times*, the Flip Camcorder is a small, fun recorder of the sights and sounds you witness.

SPECIFICATIONS:

- ✓ One-touch recording with 2x digital zoom
- ✓ Instant on-camera playback and delete
- ✓ High-speed video sharing from any PC or Mac
- ✓ One-click emailing of videos and greeting cards
- ✓ Custom editing of movie mixes, with the option to set them to your own music
- ✓ Capture of still photos from video
- ✓ Built-in tripod mount
- ✓ Built-in software for direct uploading to AOL and YouTube.



LESSONS LEARNED

1. Although the camcorder shows it will only record 30 minutes, we got a full 45-minutes (917 Mb) video with no problem. (There is a 60 minute version.)
2. For planning, one-minute video equals 25 Mb which prohibits sending the videos via email, but there are sites where you can upload and share files that large for free. YouSendIt.com is one of those sites.
3. Mounting the camcorder on a tripod makes it much more stable.
4. If you record more than one show, you must delete each show individually.
5. The use of AA batteries means resupply of power is not a problem.

If you're looking for a gift that costs about \$150 which you can find it at Wal-mart and other stores, this is the gift to buy.

“You never know when you're making a memory.”

PALMS: NEW PEST ARRIVAL

Mary Beth Henry, Hillsborough County Extension Agent,
Professional Horticulture Services, 5339 S. County Road 579
Seffner, FL 33584, (813) 744-5519 ext 103

On December 4, 2007, IFAS was informed by the Florida Department of Plant Industry that the Red Palm Mite, *Raoiella indica Hirst*, was detected in South Florida. The sample was collected from a coconut palm in Palm Beach Gardens on 11/29/07."

Department of Plant Industry Website:

http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/ento/red_palm_mite.html

This pest joins the White Figfly
< <http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/Iso/IAWG/FIG/default.asp> > as a concern.

Also, walk-in samples of Chilli Thrips are increasing in Hillsborough County.

If you have not taken a closer look at Chilli Thrips yet, now is the time! We have had a significant increase in the number of samples brought into Hillsborough County Extension in the past few months.

Chilli Thrips are an exotic pest which feed on a wide range of common landscape plants. Roses, Indian Hawthorn, *ligustrum* and *viburnum* are some that have walked through the door here lately.

It does not take a lot of the pest to cause a lot of damage, and the damage is rather characteristic: scarring, stunting, and misshapen growth.

See <http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/Iso/thripslinks.htm> for more info including pictures of pest, damage on plants, a long list of potential hosts and management recommendations.



Red Palm Mite

FLORIDA'S NEW STATE SONG?

Darry D Eggleston

The "Just Sing, Florida" contest has ended with three finalists.

You can read the words, listen to the music, vote for your favorite and even save the music to your hard drive, by going to <http://63.146.178.196/>.

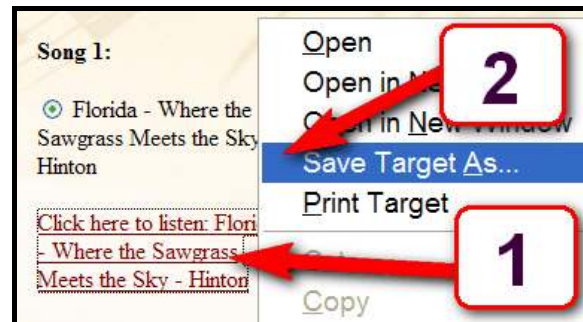
You do not have to register to do anything except vote.

You can save any of the songs (**figure**) by:

- ❶ RIGHT-click on the song title.
- ❷ Left-click on "Save target as..."

The good news: You don't have to worry about patrons in any bar singing the songs as a rousing anthem.

The bad news: All the songs are best sung by professionals at funerals.



Save Florida Song Finalists

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ECONOMIC REPORTS

Darry D Eggleston

If you have a need for statistics on Hillsborough County, you may find these sites helpful.

- Economic Analysis Program: <http://tinyurl.com/2gbhbk>
- Economics & Housing: <http://tinyurl.com/29gdy4>
- Florida Estimates of Population 2006: <http://tinyurl.com/ywgaf3>
- Economic Indicators: <http://tinyurl.com/ynsrzc>

The more you know,
the wiser your decisions.

Darry D Eggleston

GOOGLE SEARCHES GET MALWARE ATTACKS

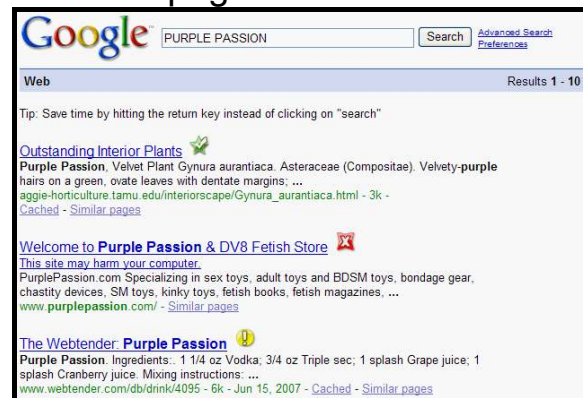
According to [ZDNet](#) (“Sunbelt Software: Google search results delivering massive malware attacks,” November 27, 2007) “Sunbelt Software is reporting rigged Google search results that deliver big malware payloads.

“Sunbelt researcher Adam Thomas wrote: ‘Sunbelt Software has uncovered tens of thousands of individual pages that have been meticulously created with the goal of obtaining high search engine ranking. Just about any search term you can think of can be found in these pages.

‘Simply put, damn near any Google search term — even terms like ‘hospice’ — can take you to one of these malware sites.’ Sunbelt’s inventory: ‘27 different domains, each with up to 1,499 [malicious] pages. That’s 40,000 possible pages.’”

Note from Darry D: That is why I use LinkScanner Lite, a freeware program, that can evaluate whether or not a site is malicious. It marks all websites resulting from a search as safe (green), questionable (yellow) or dangerous (red) (**Figure**).

Learn how to download and use LinkScanner Lite by visiting my Programs website < <http://darryd.com/Programs/LinkScannerLite.pdf> >.



LinkScanner Lite color-codes websites based upon safety.

“The researches of many commentators have already thrown much darkness on the subject, and it is probable that, if they continue, we shall soon know nothing at all about it.” Mark Twain