MacTechnics May Newsletter



May 20th, 2023

I. Apple/Tech News

A. Apple and Google are working together to solve this major security issue

GPS trackers help find lost keys, luggage or the remote control, but they also pose a security risk.

Anyone can drop one into your pocket or car to track your movements. While there are ways to detect these little gadgets, they aren't universal across different manufacturers and devices. Apple and Google are aiming to change that. Here's how.

B. What will Apple announce for iOS 17 in June?

Going by history, we should see the next iOS drop in September. Apple will announce what's coming to iOS 17 in June, but as always, the rumor mill is already grinding. Which phones will be supported? What changes can we expect?

We've put together some of the theories for you to check out.

II. Apple /Hardware

A. Get a free 4K TV ... with 1 key trade-off

Get a free 4K TV ... with 1 key trade-off A startup from the co-founder of Pluto TV is giving out 500,000 free TVs. Yep, you me heard right. The 55-inch 4K models from Telly have all the bells and whistles. The only catch?

You pay with your data.

One long commercial break

The TVs have 4K HDR displays (not the very best you can buy, but totally solid), a built-in five-driver soundbar and a free 4K Android streaming stick. You can control it with your voice — by saying, "Hey Telly" — or through built-in motion sensors. There's a camera in there, too. Sweet for video calls.

The kicker: About a quarter of the second smaller screen that sits under the main screen shows you ads. And you can't opt out of any tracking done by your new free TV. More on that below.

How smart is too smart?

You've probably noticed how cheap smart TVs are compared to phones and computers. In reality, all smart TVs are tracking what we do and watch — then packaging that up to sell to advertisers.

This is super interesting. Vizio made \$1.6 million in gross profit selling TVs in the first quarter of 2023. But, the

company earned \$73.8 million in profits on its Platform Plus business which includes selling advertising and viewer data. Yup, Vizio TVs are just there to sell ads and data.

When the product is free ...

You're the product. I say this all the time. To see what they get, look no further than the terms of service. I read it so you don't have to.

You've got to keep that TV connected to Wi-Fi at all times and you can't block any ads anywhere on your network. They get your name, personal details, what you watch and ... basically any other data they can glean from your TV habits.

How deep does this tube go?

Here's what Pozin told Fast Company. "We know where you live, what your income bracket is — obviously it's all anonymized — but we know what car you're driving. We know when your lease is up. We know where you shop. We know what your favorite sports teams are, et cetera."

Hey, at least he's not being sneaky about it ...

Want to take a byte?

To use the TV, you also have to download the Telly app. I didn't read those terms and conditions, but I'm sure there's a lot of data tracking and selling going on in there, too. You have to give the guy credit for being upfront about selling your data. As for me, I'll pass on the Telly. You can join the waitlist here.

I bet the TV in your house is tracking you. Here's how to make it stop on Vizio, LG, Samsung and more.

B. Sick of Wi-Fi dead spots

You need a Wi-Fi extender! This super-popular model from TP-Link covers up to 1,200 square feet and connects up to 20 devices. Plug it into an outlet and set it up in two taps. These are great for areas of the house with spotty connections. Ahh, more bars in all places!

ITS OVER 40% OFF!

C. DEAL OF THE DAY



Better way to hold your tablet

Give your wrists a break! This pillow stand is perfect for couch surfing, binge-watching or catching up on work. It supports your iPad or another tablet so you don't have to and lets you angle it so it's harder for someone to snoop on what you're doing. Comes in nice colors, too. ONLY ABOUT \$20!

III. Apple Software

- A. Convert audio and video files easily using drag and drop with Permute
- B. Why You Should NEVER Use These Apps On Your Mac.

C. PopChar 9.5 Special characters at your fingertips

Find and type special characters in no time

Most of our fonts contain thousands of characters, many more than you can access from your keyboard. Whenever you need a special character, PopChar is there to help. Search for characters by their names or their shape, find fonts that contain certain characters or explore the character set of fonts.

PopChar makes all these font-related tasks easy.

Explore all features
Details matter

With PopChar, you can also take a look at fonts in detail – view a font preview, check out what a given text fragment looks like in a certain font, and print beautiful font sheets. PopChar also supports ligatures.

Explore all features

In love with emojis

Find and insert all sorts of colorful emojis in no time. PopChar displays all symbols in a perfect overview. Search them by text or find recently used ones. PopChar also makes it easy to insert emojis in different skin tone variations or use country flags in just a few seconds. The best part? All features work system-wide, across all programs and applications.

Explore all features

Download PopChar now

PopChar 9.5 has been optimized and runs flawlessly on macOS Ventura.

Missing permissions are now easier to fix, with improved linking into macOS System Settings.

D. BeLight Newsletter

Palette Knife Typography for Art Text 4
Elevate your design game with the Palette Knife
Typography set. Each template features a unique
volume effect inherent to the palette knife
technique. These stunning designs are perfect for
creating eye-catching title art.

No Art Text 4 update is required. Just open the Design Gallery and find the Palette Knife Typography set.

Learn More

IV. IOS Korner

A. This hidden iPhone setting puts you at risk

Facial recognition is a common way to unlock modern smartphones. Scan your face, and the phone stores the data to compare against when you look at it to unlock it. But could someone use this security feature to get into your phone? There's a hidden iPhone setting that could let someone do that. Here's what to check for.

Tap or click for a simple way to protect your device. →

B. Can't put your phone down? Here are tips to cut back on screen time

Too much screen time affects your mood, sleeping patterns and eating habits. This includes phones, TVs, desktop computers, laptops and tablets. Many spend hours on a screen just for work or school, but we can control what we do in our free time.

Here's how to break the bonds of screen addiction

C. Best hidden iPhone messaging tips and tricks you should be using

Think you know everything there is about your iPhone? Think again. Apple is constantly adding new features, and the Messaging app is often the star of the show. We've gathered some of the best iPhone messaging tips and tricks you may not know about.

D Emergency preparedness: Enable lifesaving settings on your iPhone and Apple Watch

If you're worried about your health, take advantage of Apple's extraordinary tech advancements. An Apple Watch helps you track your fitness like never before. Even if you don't have one, your iPhone has tools that can help. I'll show you how.

E■ Tools you didn't know were built into your iPhone

Even if you're an old pro using iPhone, there are neat features you might not know about. Some are more about fun than usefulness, but others are practical tools you'll use daily. Here are five built-in tools you'll use all the time.

Tap or click here for five handy iPhone tools.
→

F. Get through to your family even when their phones are on Do Not Disturb

Do Not Disturb mode helps keep focus, but what if you need to get through to a family member who has it turned on? Not to worry! With just a few steps, you can send an alert to someone's phone even if they're in Do Not Disturb mode. I'll show you how to do it.

G. 7 important iPhone security settings to change right now

Your iPhone has many security features that protect your privacy, identity and online accounts. Some are active by default, while others can be changed according to your preferences. We'll explain some

critical security features and show you how to use them.

H. Take this important security step to protect your Apple account now

Your Apple ID connects with Apple services such as iCloud, Messages and the App Store across your devices. You can also use it to access third-party apps and websites and while enabling Hide My Email. While convenient, you should monitor what your Apple ID is tied to for security purposes.

Here's how.

I. 10 iPhone tricks I use every day, and you will, too

You know your phone buzzes and beeps when you get a notification, but did you realize you can set up a silent notification that flashes a light for those times you need to keep quiet? That's one just one hidden iPhone setting in my latest column. I've got 10 killer features you didn't know were there — along with steps to set them up.

J. Worried someone is snooping on your iPhone? Here's how to record evidence

Notice suspicious activity on your phone? Is somebody stalking you or sending threatening messages? You'll want to capture the evidence you can present to authorities if it comes to that. Your iPhone has a built-in screen recorder, so you don't have to rely on third-party apps. Here's how it works.

V. Tips & Tricks

A. <u>How to Add an Emoji</u> <u>Viewer to Your Mac's Menu Bar</u>

B. Skip the sob story, get the recipe

You found a promising recipe online, but the author has a 3,000-word story on how deeply meaningful those chocolate chip cookies are — and there are pop-up ads everywhere. Annoying!

Want to skip the story and jump straight to the steps? I've got two smart methods to share with you:

Copy the recipe's URL into **Just The**

Recipe Like magic, it'll give you the ingredients and steps you need. There's

an app and Chrome extension, too, if you love it.

Or, try this insider tech trick. On a PC, hit Ctrl + F and type "Print" to quickly find the recipe. **On a Mac, it's Command + F.**

I get requests all the time for ways to store recipes. Here are some of my favorite methods.

C. Free privacy tool to see what data your CAR collects about you

I talk a lot about your tech devices knowing tons of your personal information. Virtual assistants, smartphones and even your smart TV. But what about your car? Yep. Your vehicle now knows things about you it shouldn't. I'll show you how to find out what it knows.

Tap or click for a simple way to find out what information your car collects. →

D. It takes forever to find all your subscriptions

You downloaded a cool new app and signed up for a subscription. Then you got bored, stopped using it and forgot about it. But it keeps popping up in your monthly bill. Sound familiar? Try this life hack to keep track of all your subscriptions and cut out the ones you don't need.It takes forever to find all your subscriptions — Use this shortcut

E. Best places to find movies, books, audiobooks and music without spending a dime

Why pay for what you can get for free? Thanks to the internet, just about any medium you can imagine is available for nothing in one way or another. From hit TV shows and movies to audiobooks to the greatest books ever written, here's where you can find a lifetime of entertainment for free.

F. Steve Jobs' uncashed check, ChatGPT job heist & dead phone hacks

Plus, be careful with QR codes. Clever new scams are spreading fast. How much is \$1,000 worth of Apple shares in 1998 worth today? (Hint: It's a lot!). A heartwarming Facebook story, fun ChatGPT-powered tools, video game speedruns and how to upgrade your browser with an underrated feature.

WATCH THIS VIDEO →

G. See what (and who) is on your Wi-Fi network

Back in the day, you could only see what was on your network by logging in to your router using a browser. That still works (more on that below), but now, most wireless providers let you do this via an app.

Find your provider's official app

Go to your provider's website on your phone to make sure you have the legit app, add it to your smartphone, then log in with your ISP's credentials. They all have slightly different capabilities. Most let you review and organize devices, change your Wi-Fi name and password and troubleshoot connection issues.

My friend Benny changed his password to "incorrect."
Whenever he forgot his password, the error message would say, "Your password is incorrect."

... Or go old school

Log into your router to see the most up-to-date information about which devices are connected. Most models support this universal feature.

Type your IP address into your browser, then log in with your router's custom username and password — or the default information if you never set one. Check for a list that says DHCP Client or Connected Devices.

Pro tip: <u>See something you don't recognize?</u>
Change your Wi-Fi password and reconnect only the devices you trust.

G2. 3 search terms to avoid at all costs

3 search terms to avoid at all costs:

Ever Google search for coupons or promo codes? You'll probably waste 15 minutes finding codes that don't work. At worst, you'll end up on a malware-infected site.

And it doesn't end there — not even close. Scammers know how to game the search system. These three terms could do some real damage.

1. "Free credit report"

Think about all the details someone could get their hands on under the guise of a "trustworthy" site. The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act requires the three credit reporting agencies (Transunion, Experian and Equifax) to provide you with a free annual credit report.

Online: www.AnnualCreditReport.com

By phone: 1-877-FACTACT (1-877-322-8882)

If you request via phone or mail (steps here), your credit report will be mailed within 15 days once the paperwork is received.

2. "Tech support phone numbers"

If scammers can figure out how to get your bank's name to appear when they call, you can bet they can get their numbers high in searches.

Here are a few of the most searched:

Amazon: 888-280-4331 Microsoft: 800-642-7676 Apple: 800-275-2273

Google: 650-253-0000

Meta (Facebook and Instagram): 650-543-4800

3. "Free people search"

Maybe you're curious about a new love interest, business contact or old friend. There are (free) ways to dig up dirt, but scammy sites are simply trying to reel you into an expensive subscription.

Here's how to snoop instead:

Check out publicly available info like government documents, arrest records and property information.

Do a thorough Google search. There's an art to this. Try these steps.

Pro tip: Check out the how-to articles from my Opt-out Tuesday series to wipe your personal details from the web.

✓ I got a text message scam the other day. It said I won \$500 or
tickets to an Elvis tribute concert. I needed to press 1 for the money
or 2 for the show.

✓ I've got more smarts I couldn't fit here:

More terms never to Google.

H. Security tip: Are you making this huge Wi-Fi mistake?

Just think about all a bad actor could access if they made their way into your home internet network. It's scary stuff, so we want to help you stay as safe as possible. Here's how to lock down your PC.

Tap or click for a security step you should take now. →

I. Quick tip of the day

Here's an unsung hero of your keyboard: The Shift key. You already know it capitalizes letters, but it has a ton of other handy uses, too.

The Shift key actually reverses other common commands. Here are some examples:

Ctrl+Z = undo; Shift+Ctrl+Z = redo Space = scroll down a webpage; Shift+space = scroll up on a webpage Ctrl+Tab = next tab; Shift+Ctrl+Tab = previous tab Alt+Tab = next app; Shift+Alt+Tab = previous app Ctrl+T = open a new tab; Shift+Ctrl+T = reopen the last closed tab

Head to the site for even more Shift tricks.

J. I-Spy: Change your computer's settings to stop programs spying on you

We've warned you many times to check what the apps on your phone have access to. The same goes for your PC or Mac. It's worth popping into your settings to see if your

programs are spying on you. It only takes a couple minutes.

K. How to spot hidden surveillance cameras in your Airbnb, VRBO, and vacation rentals

You lug your suitcase into your rental, flop onto the couch and look up to see ... a surveillance camera. Now what? I've got the questions to ask before you book and the steps to take once you arrive at your destination. Plus, I'll tell you exactly what to

say to the police if you find cameras you weren't expecting.

L. Free online tool shows where your Mac apps are connecting

Are you worried about Communist China getting its hands on your data? Good. You should be. But TikTok isn't the only culprit. Other apps connect to servers in China, Russia and other countries that could use your info for nefarious purposes. Fortunately, this online tool can pinpoint apps that are selling you out.

Tap or click here for a simple way to protect privacy. →

M. There's a hidden trackpad on your iPhone- Here's how to use it

Do you write a ton of emails on your phone? Maybe you send long text messages frequently as well? If you use your iPhone to type excessively, you might be interested in a convenient tip that turns your keyboard into a trackpad. Here's how to use the trackpad on your iPhone.

N. This hidden iPhone setting puts you at risk

Facial recognition is a common way to unlock modern smartphones. Scan your face, and the phone stores the data to compare against when you look at it to unlock it. But could someone use this security feature to get into your phone? There's a hidden iPhone setting that could let someone do that. Here's what to check for.

O. How to add emojis using your voice with Siri and Google Assistant

With voice dictation, you can send hands-free texts. There's just one problem: If you love using emojis, your phone will often send words instead of emojis. So if you want to send your friend a winking emoji instead of the words "winking emoji," use this guide. We'll help you verbally insert and send emojis on Android and iPhone.

P. Speed up your startup

Oops, you clicked "yes" on a notification just to make it go away. But alas, you may have inadvertently let specific programs start automatically. Now they slow down your computer from the moment you turn it on. Bummer.

Even if you didn't make that mistake, your PC or Mac might be taking longer to start than usual. The quick fix is to stop programs you don't want to load at start up. They'll remain on your computer; they just won't start on their own. Oh, happy day!

On a Windows PC:

Click the Windows search box and type Task Manager.

Choose the Startup tab.

Right-click on the programs you don't need and choose Disable.

On a Mac:

Click the Apple menu and navigate to System Preferences.

Click Users & Groups.

Select your User Account, then click Login Items on the top right.

To prevent an app from running automatically, click Remove a login item.

Feeling the need for speed? Fear not, I am here to save the day! Give your comp these fixes.

Q. How to stay safe on public Wi-Fi

As a reader of my newsletters, you know the many risks of going online. But what can be even riskier is using public Wi-Fi to connect to the internet. It can open the gates to hackers who may try to steal your information or identity. Here's how to safely use public Wi-Fi.

Tap or click here to protect yourself and safely use public Wi-Fi. →

R. This is fonted up

Big Tech makes big money by tracking what you do online. You may have heard of tracking pixels, cookies and scripts. *I bet you didn't know that fonts can track you, too.*

Google *gives away* special fonts to website owners to use. At last count, they're installed on over 60 million websites.

Secret exposed

When you visit a site that uses Google Fonts, you automatically hand over to Google:

- 1-Your IP address, aka your unique online identifier tied to your devices
- 2-Every webpage you visited and how long you spent there

3-The links you click on that page

This gets lumped in with all the other data Google collects on you everywhere else. If you want to be shocked, these three creepy lists show everything Google knows about you.

What can you do about it?

Right now, only Firefox allows you to set your own font choice. That's why software developer Jeff Johnson created a browser extension that does it for you

StopTheFonts block fonts from sources like Google with built-in tracking codes. Right now, the extension is only available on Safari.

If you use Chrome, Edge or any other browser, your best bet is telling Google to forget your search history and activity. It's not a perfect solution, but it beats not doing anything. Luckily, that's easy to do, and you can set it up to happen automatically.

Go to myaccount.google.com and log in. Click Data & privacy on the left side of the screen.

In the History settings section, checkmarks are next to Web & App Activity, Location History and YouTube History. Click each one to adjust your settings. Toggle them off to stop further tracking if you want.

On these pages, set up Auto-delete for future activity. Select every 3 months.

Your search history will be gone, but there's another step to take. You must also disable tracking through apps, location history and YouTube. Get the steps to do that here.

What's Satan's favorite font?

Hellvetica.

S. Your tech is gross! 5 things you forget to clean

When was the last time you cleaned the inside of your computer? Geeky as it may be, you'll love how your collection of devices looks and feels when they're as clean as they were when you bought them. Is it time for a home or office refresh?

Tap or click here for our guide to clean tech. →

T. Traveling soon? 5 smart tech steps to take before you hit the road

Ah, vacation. We could all use a break, but there's no denying the stress that comes with all the moments leading up to reaching your destination. I can help! In this column, I've got smart ways to save you some time, protect your privacy and get where you're going comfortably.

U.



5 texting shortcuts people over 35 don't know

Are you "trill" enough to know what's "lit" with Gen Z? If you have no clue what I'm saying, get up to date in this one-minute podcast. CLICK:

VI. Miscellaneous

A. BofA's big payout: Bank of America is paying out an \$8 million class-action lawsuit settlement for charging repeated fees for insufficient funds. You might be owed if you had a checking or savings account that incurred fees between May 19, 2017 and Feb. 16, 2023. Details here.

B. Money doesn't buy happiness: Our HR and Finance Director, Amber, has a free online class on her radar: Yale's 10-week "The Science of Well-Being" course. The big takeaway: Many of the things we want aren't

actually the things that make us happiest. Hey, take this class and you can say, "I go to Yale!"

C. Guinea pigs wanted: Google is looking for companies in in Austin, Texas; Huntsville, Alabama; Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina; and Salt Lake City, Utah, to test its 20-gig internet speed. That's ... really, really fast. Apply here.

Bonus: Free internet!

- D. Clone yourself: Apple's next big iPhone update includes Live Speech, aimed at people with conditions that can affect speaking ability over time. Record 15 minutes of audio to create a digital copy of your voice for use in-person or on the phone.
- E. Too bad, so sad: A security flaw lets hackers take over the Wemo Mini Smart Plug V2. Manufacturer Belkin won't fix the issue since the model is no longer supported. If you have one, get rid of it.
- F. New to Bing ChatGPT: You'll now see images with your answers and you can copy answers to your

clipboard. It's only a matter of time before we get even more images using Bing AI (*cough* advertisements *cough*).

G. Healthcare hacked: PharMerica, a national pharmacy network owned by BrightSpring Health, was hacked. Almost 6 million people had their Social Security numbers, names, birthdates and medical info exposed. If that's you, freeze your credit report.

H. BY THE NUMBERS

50%

The percentage of web traffic that came from bots in 2022. Automated and malicious web activity also went up. Expect that number to grow as ChatGPT and other Al tools do, too. One time, I wrote a bot to get around a web security certificate. It managed to evade captcha.

2 years

The time it takes for your Google Account to be deemed "inactive." Log in to your old account(s) before the end of the year, or you'll lose your email address and messages, Drive, Docs, Photos backup, Calendar events and everything else.

2 hours

The length of a flight from NYC to London by 2030. New research from the U.K. Civil Aviation Authority says traveling at supersonic speeds will be here before you know it. The time from London to Sydney flying that fast? Just 2 hours. Wow, in no time at all, you could be joining an Australian game party in the LAN down under.

6

The number of months cancer patients spent waiting for a new promising treatment. Even after the wait, only a quarter of the patients eventually received CART therapy, which has remission rates as high as 90%. Pharmaceutical companies can't keep up with demand for the treatment, which costs up to \$400,000.

2 minutes

The amount of time you have to unsend a text message on an iPhone. Of course, the recipient may see your message before you unsend it and even if they don't, they'll be notified that you did so. Here's a fun game. The next time someone texts you, "Call me," do this. Call them and say, "Text me" and hang up.

80%

The percentage of employers using monitoring software to spy on employees. They're tracking online activity, clock in/out times, phone calls and messages. The demand for this type of software has skyrocketed thanks to the boom of fully remote and hybrid workers.

■ Elon Musk is the father of 10 children with three women, including a pair of twins and a set of triplets.

His kids' names with Grimes got a lot of attention. Their son's name is X Æ A-A12. Grimes said the X stands for "the unknown variable," Æ stands for "my elven spelling of Ai," and A-12 is the "precursor to SR-17 (our favorite aircraft)."

Their daughter's named Exa Dark Sideræl. Exa is a supercomputing term, exaFLOPS, while Dark represents the unknown and Sideræl means the true time of the universe.

And here I thought Kim Komando was a strange name! Be sure to forward this email to a few folks. Together, we can make this world a better, safer tech place.

J. Smile! You're on the airport cam

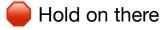
Smile! You're on the airport cam

Be on the lookout for face-scanning tech next time you fly. Airports in Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, **Detroit**, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Orlando and a few other cities are using facial recognition to speed up the security process. Worth it or invasive? Depends on who you ask.

Hurry up and wait

That's the name of the game when it comes to travel. Wait times are out of control, and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) says facial recognition tech will make the process much more efficient.

You'll insert your driver's license or passport into a card reader. A camera will compare your face to the one on your ID. An agent approves once the screen is done and you're on your merry way. Many airports in Europe use this technology.



TSA says it won't be mandatory, but several U.S. Senators are still worried about privacy. Sens. Jeffrey Merkley, Edward Markey, Cory Booker, Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders wrote an open letter.

Regardless of politics, they make a good point: Most people won't know they can opt out of the process or know how to do it. They say facial recognition also lacks transparency, consent and encryption.

What happens if that database is breached? You better believe it's going to be a prime target for hackers. I'm all for convenience (I hate lines, too), but let's make sure the TSA process is safe and secure, too.

Nerd joke alert: A photon is going through airport security.
The TSA agent asks if he has any luggage. The photon says, "No, I'm traveling light."

K. Reasons why plants die

\$39.99 / Amazon

No. 1 is you over-water it. No. 2 is you under-water it. Get this indoor automatic watering system. Its 60-day programmable timer means no more dead plants. It plugs in via USB, so there is no battery to die on you, either. It's 20% off!

L. Hide your home on Google Maps and Apple Maps

Don't want your house and address number visible to anyone online? You can request a privacy blur over pictures of your home and car. I did it!

On Google Maps:

Open Google Maps or the Street View gallery and look up your address.

Tap the Street View photo you want to have blurred. It has to show your face, home, license plate or other identifying information.

Click Report a problem in the bottom right or by clicking the three-dot menu on a photo.

Complete the form, then click Submit.

Apple Maps makes it more of a pain. Get this, you actually have to email them. At least it's not a fax? Email MapsImageCollection@apple.com, and include your full address and any property details so they know which house is yours.

I met the man who invented the part of a map that explains what each symbol means. What a legend.

I've got more smart steps for you. (Wish I could include them all in this email!) Check your computer for snoops and make sure it locks when you step away.

M. AUDIO BRIEFING

iPhone butt-dial 911? Don't hang up

Accidentally dial emergency services?

In one minute, I'll explain why it's important to stay on the line. Click:

N. Sluggish browser? 5 ways to speed it up

Many things could be causing your web browser to run slowly. The good news is there are ways to pinpoint and quickly fix the problem. From a simple antivirus scan to clearing your cache, here are five ways to speed up your web browser.

O. Son's suicide spurs Congressman's campaign against child sextortion

The Kim Komando Show

In July of last year, Rep. Brandon Guffey experienced a heartbreaking tragedy that no parent should have to endure. His 17-year-old son, Gavin Guffey, fell victim to a cruel sextortion scheme and tragically took his own life shortly thereafter. Now, as a South Carolina congressman, Guffey is advocating passionately to prevent such incidents from happening again. He is proposing a bill in the State House that would make sextortion a punishable offense with a maximum penalty of 30 years imprisonment.

P. Glug glug vroom vroom: Ky Michaelson from Minnesota has invented countless machines, holds a ton of patents and has set dozens of speed records. His latest creation: A beer-powered motorcycle that runs on a 14-gallon keg. Take a minute right now! You have to see this thing.