



# Bristol Village Computer Club Newsletter

December 2015

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**Next Computer Club (BVCC) Meeting**  
**Pike Library Digital Resources and Training by Kimberley Roush**  
**December 14, 2015, 7:30PM Glenn Center**  
**Also on BTV**

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If you are reading this on your computer display, remember that **Acrobat Reader** has a *zoom* feature (under “**View**” in your top tool bar) for enlarging or reducing text and graphics.

**Old Newsletters Available:** Newsletter copies back to 2010 are available on the [BVCC Home Page](#). Use the pop down **Newsletter** menu to locate the newsletter you want to see.

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You can jump directly to articles in this newsletter. Just left click on the Index listing.

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## Notes from Kent

*By Kent Mulliner*

### Obnoxious Ads and Those who Support them

The BBC has reported that **Yahoo** admitted that it has been blocking the email of some users who have installed ad-blocker software [full disclosure: this computer club often installs adware blockers on its own and member computers when requested (as most users are plagued by spam, pop-up ads and other advertizing). Less commonly recognized, many advertisers track users' browsing activities.]] At issue in blocking advertising is that some browsing software and many websites receive income by directing users to websites that pay them. Yahoo uses this revenue for its otherwise “free” **Yahoo Mail**.

Some Yahoo Mail users have reported receiving a message that they must disable an installed ad-blocker before they can access their Yahoo mailbox. Yahoo claims that it was “testing a new product experience” in the U.S. While ad-blockers are not uniformly effective, the reaction from Yahoo indicates that they can be a step in reducing your exposure to annoying ads. **See Len's article on p. 4 for more on installing Adblocker Plus to Firefox.**

## December Program on Pike County Library Digital Resources & Training

By Kent Mulliner

Special guest presenter for the December 14<sup>th</sup> Computer Club meeting is Kimberly Roush from AmeriCorps. ([http://www.newswatchman.com/pike/article\\_97d95970-dfcb-5ea1-b153-f89ffa6d88a9.html](http://www.newswatchman.com/pike/article_97d95970-dfcb-5ea1-b153-f89ffa6d88a9.html)) She is developing technology training programs for Pike County. In addition to ebooks, the Library offers e magazines and access to one of the large genealogy programs. This training initiative is part of the **Guiding Ohio Online** administered by the State Library of Ohio. Programs will also be offered at the branch libraries. In Waverly, one-on-one question sessions will be offered to walk-ins on Mondays, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and one-hour training programs 1:30-5:30 p.m., also on Mondays.



Kimberly Roush

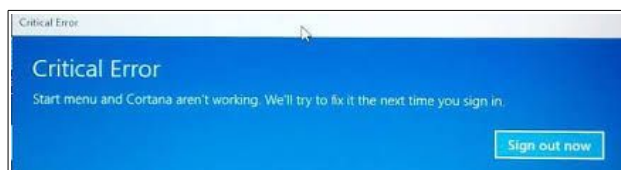
Photo by Stephanie Stanley, Pike County News Watchman

In addition to the Club presentation, you can call Kimberly with questions or to set up a training session at (740) 647-4021 or email her at [kim.roush@guidingohioonline.org](mailto:kim.roush@guidingohioonline.org).

## More Windows 10 News!

By Kent Mulliner

Having apprised you of early experiences with **Windows 10**, its only fair to share negative experiences. With no identifiable cause, I did encounter the following **Critical Error**.



I spent a few hours exploring various suggestions for dealing with this error in Google and tried the various correctives offered. I did learn that this error had been reported to Microsoft since the end of July. Needing a rest, I signed out for two or three hours. On resuming, the error message had disappeared and has posed no further problems.

Since I tried so many recommended (by users) cures, I can't be certain which worked its magic. It also may have been my personal revulsion expressed to Microsoft for letting such an error persist for months. But it's gone now and nearly all is forgiven.



## Potpourri – Tips and Tricks

By Len

### Viewing YouTube Videos

There are a number of Bristol Village related videos on YouTube. (If you are reading this on-line, click on the picture to jump to the web page. You may have to open the browser from the Taskbar.)

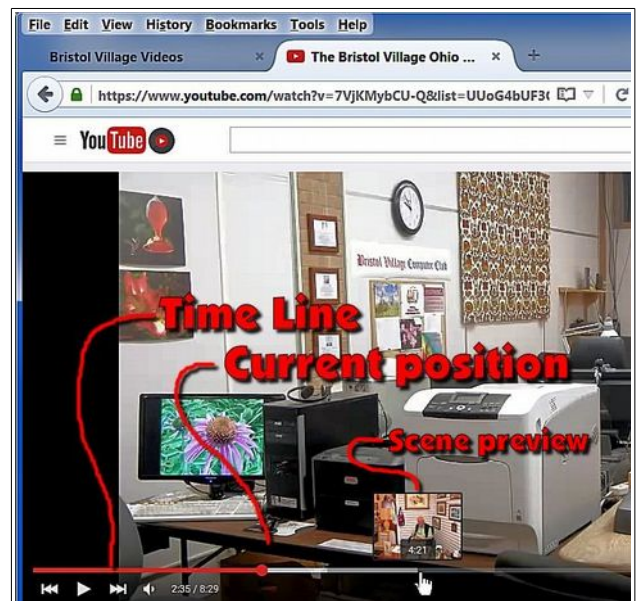


There are a number of YouTube viewing tricks that you might find helpful. Observe the bottom line of a video.



- There is a **counter** that shows the total length of the video and your current position on the time line.

- A **volume** control slider appears when you hover the mouse pointer over the speaker tool. This is independent of the Windows volume control found on the Taskbar.
- Selecting the **right pointing double arrow** will jump to the next YouTube suggested video.
- The **Play** tool will change to a **Pause** tool when the video is playing. You can also pause or play a video by clicking the left mouse button when the mouse cursor is anywhere in the viewing window.
- The **left pointing double arrow** will start the current video from the beginning.



As the video plays, a dot on the horizontal time line shows the current progress of the video. You can use the mouse cursor to jump to a different position in time. Left click on the time line to jump to a new point in the video.

As you hover the left mouse button with the mouse cursor on the time line, a small window will show you the scene at that point.



- You can toggle *Closed Captions* on or off.

If the YouTube producer has not created closed captions, YouTube will create them by using voice recognition software similar to Dragon Speaking. The problem is that since the software is not trained for a particular voice, the results can be amusing or confusing. Just for fun you might turn the Closed Caption option on and watch the Bristol Village Gardens video.

- The *Theater Mode* option will have the video take over the width of your display.
- The *Full Screen* option will make the video fill your entire computer screen. To get out of full screen mode, press the **Esc** key.

YouTube will provide a list of videos on the right side of the display. The contents of this list will vary depending on the YouTube analysis of your viewing habits. When a video reaches the end, YouTube will provide an option to start playing the next video on the play list. If you cancel the play option, YouTube will show a tiled display of suggested videos. The suggested videos will depend on what YouTube thinks you might be interested in seeing.

### What's New in Firefox

If you are using Internet Explorer, or the new Windows 10 Edge, as your web browser, you might consider changing to Mozilla *Firefox*. Many computer gurus claim that Firefox is more secure than Internet

Explorer, and that It has better options. Firefox can be downloaded from this web page:

<https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/products/>

If you *are* a Firefox user, you should check to see if you are using the latest version.

- ✓ From the *Firefox Menu*, select **Help, About Firefox**.

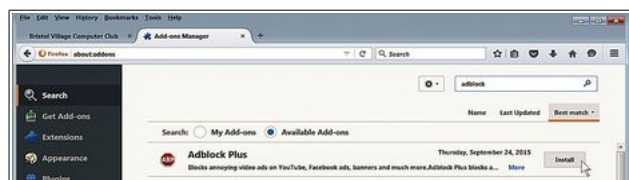


The *About* window will show the current installed version. If it is not up to date, the window will show the downloading progress of the newest version. Keep the *About* window open until the update is complete.

What if you do not see the *Menu* bar? In this case, right click near the top of the window and toggle the **Menu** option **ON**.



Firefox provides a number of add on options. One that I always install is *Adblock Plus*. This prevents most pop up ads from appearing. To implement the ad blocker, do the following.



- ✓ From the *Menu Bar*, select **Tools, Add-ons**.
- ✓ Enter **Adblock** in the search box.
- ✓ In the *Add-ons Manager*, select the **Install** option for **Adblock Plus**.

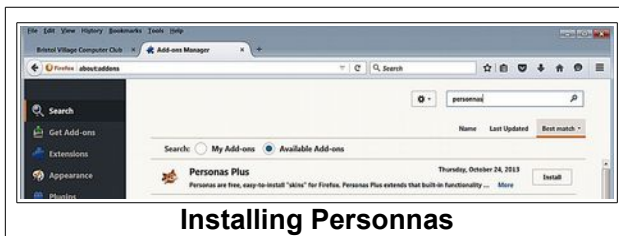


An Add-on that is just for fun is **Personnas**. This tool allows you to change the appearance of your Firefox window.

✓ To add the **Personnas** tool, just repeat the above steps, but substitute **Personnas** in the search box.



Once this add-on is installed, a little **Fox tool** will appear in the Firefox tool bar. Selecting this tool will open a list of Personnas to choose from.



Installing Personnas

The Personnas option will change the border graphics and menu text style in the Firefox window.



Christmas Owls Persona in Firefox



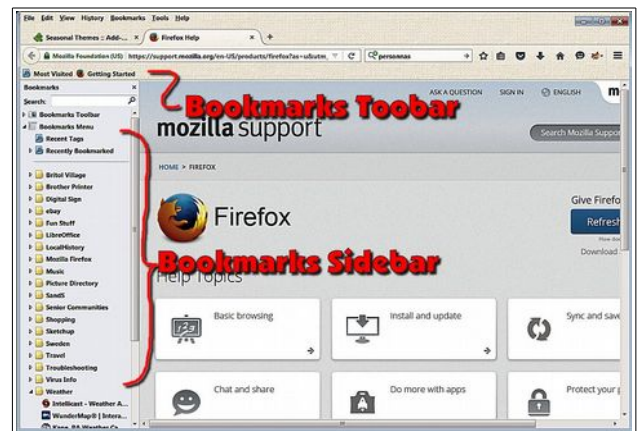
Firefox tool area

The upper right section of the Firefox window contains a collection of tools. If you hover the mouse cursor over a tool, a tool tip will show the tool function.

The **Bookmark** tool is similar to the Favorites tool in Internet Explorer or Edge (the Windows 10 version of IE). Selecting the **Bookmark this page** tool will add the address of the current web page to your Bookmarks list.

Bookmarks can be displayed several ways:

- Use the Firefox Toolbar **Show your Bookmarks** tool;
- Use the **Menubar Bookmarks** option;
- Select from the **Menubar View, Toolbars, Bookmarks Toolbar**;
- Select from the **Menubar, View, Sidebar, Bookmarks**.



A **Save to Pocket** tool was added to recent versions of Firefox. This is useful to people who want to access their Firefox bookmarks from mobile devices, and requires a Firefox account.

If you download files from the Internet using Firefox, you can watch the download progress or access the downloaded file by using the **Display the progress of ongoing downloads** tool. Once the file has been downloaded, this tool will show the file, and provide a shortcut to open the downloaded file location.

The *Open Menu* option on the far right of the Firefox toolbar provides access to all Firefox settings and options.

Firefox provides a wealth of functions and options that can make your Internet browsing more efficient and fun.

### What's New in Thunderbird

Thunderbird is a free program from Mozilla that is used for reading and composing email messages. The latest updates to Thunderbird added several possibly interesting features. If you are using Thunderbird, select (from the *Menubar*) select **Help, About Thunderbird** to check for the latest updates. If updates are available, wait for them to be downloaded and applied.



Thunderbird now has added calendar and scheduling options, along with several other functions. To learn about the new features, select (from the *Menubar*) **Help, What's New**.

The *What's New* page also provides links to tips and tricks for learning more about the new features.

New in Thunderbird 38.0

This article describes the major changes that are visible to users in Thunderbird version 38. Full details of all the changes can be found in the Thunderbird 38 release notes.

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- Chat supports Yahoo Messenger
- Filtering sent/archived messages
- Search multiple address books
- Expanded Folder Pane columns
- Google OAuth2
- Calendar integration
- Mail Composition Fixes
- Font Handling on Linux

Here is a quick review of some basic Thunderbird features.

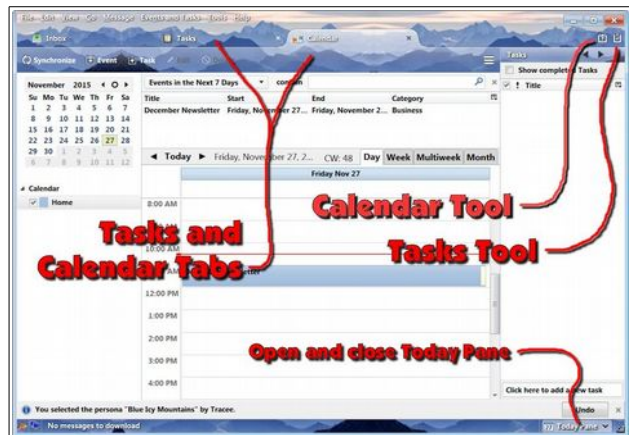


The folders list provides access to the *Inbox*, *Drafts*, *Sent*, and other folders. If you do not see this list, select (from the *Menubar*) **View, Folders, All**.

When you select an entry in the *Message List Area*, the contents of the message will appear in the *Message Preview Area*. If you double click on a message in the list, a new **TAB** will open to show the complete message. (If you open TABs, be sure to close them when you are through. Otherwise, you will fill your display with TABs and it will become very messy.)

The latest version of Thunderbird allows you to open a *Schedule* reminder sidebar (or *Today Pane*). There is a tool in the lower right corner of the Thunderbird window that is used to open or close the *Today Pane sidebar*.

There are two tools on the upper right area of the Thunderbird that open *Task* and *Calendar* TABs.



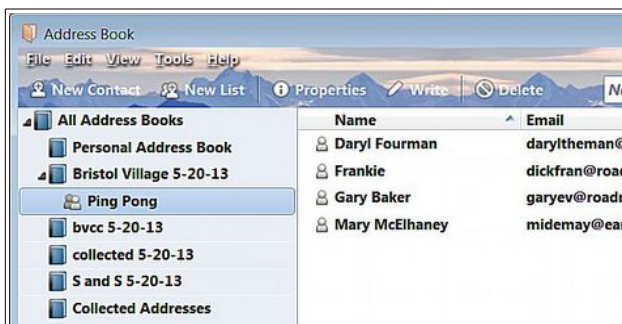
Thunderbird now provides tools for keeping track of your schedule as you read and write email messages.



The *search* option makes it easier to find old messages... if you can remember a key word from the message. You can also search messages by entering a name.

When you select a message located by a search, the message will appear in a new TAB. Be sure to close the TAB when you are through using it.

Thunderbird provides a lot of flexibility in using address books. The illustration here shows that the *Address Book* window is open. You can see that I have a number of different address books in my collection.



I used the *New List* option when the Bristol Village book was selected to create a collection of addresses in the Ping Pong list. Now when I want to send a message to my Ping Pong friends, I simply double click on the Ping Pong entry when I am writing a new message. Always remember that when you are sending email to a list of addresses use the **Bcc:** option to hide the addresses from junk mail list makers.

If you study the screen shots of Thunderbird, you might notice that Thunderbird now has the same Personnas option as Firefox.

