today's leftovers

By *Roy Schestowitz*
Created *26/02/2020 - 11:27am*
Submitted by Roy Schestowitz on Wednesday 26th of February 2020 11:27:41 AM Filed under Misc [1]

- **Hands-On Lab: Oracle Linux Disk Encryption Using Network Based Key Services**[2]

  Many Linux environments require data to be encrypted at rest but that can add administrative overhead to the boot process. Oracle Linux has supported disk encryption since version 5 but a feature was added in 7 update 4 to allow the automatic unlocking of devices based on external network services. Network Bound Disk Encryption (NBDE) uses a network based key service to validate a system is on a trusted network and unlock encrypted disks upon boot. By combining NBDE and a keyboard entered passphrase the system will unlock a disk automatically during boot but allow administrators to use a passphrase during maintenance operations.

  A new hands-on lab Oracle Linux Disk Encryption Using Network Based Key Services is now available for anyone to learn the concepts of Linux disk encryption. The lab begins with the creation of a encrypted block device dependent on a passphrase and continues to an example of network based keys to unlock the device. Oracle Linux 8 is used but the same tools are available on Oracle Linux 7. The base components involved include dm-crypt which allows arbitrary block devices to be encrypted, Linux Unified Key Setup (LUKS) a disk encryption standard and cryptsetup which is used to configure our disks. We continue to include Tang, a network service that provides cryptographic services over HTTP and Clevis, an encryption framework. Clevis can use keys provided by Tang as a passphrase to unlock LUKS volumes.

- **Mir 1.7.1 Released With X11 Support Promoted Out Of "Experimental" Phase**[3]

  Most significant with Mir 1.7.1 is the X11 support being improved to the point that it's no longer considered experimental for running traditional X11 software atop Wayland. Passing --enable-x11 now can be used for enabling the X11 support rather than the prior "x11-display-

experimental" option. Mir 1.7.1 saw a lot of work to the XWayland and X11 window manage code, including a new display FD option.

- [**SUSE Manager 4 Brings the Power of DevOps to Your Enterprise Linux Environment**](#)[4]

DevOps is an IT management philosophy that requires speed, efficiency and confidence. A DevOps environment is constantly evolving: Containers spin up, new applications appear, tools are tested and updates happen?all without stoppages or significant downtime.

- [**Liquid Prep, a solution that helps farmers optimize water usage during droughts, is now open source**](#)[5]

When a prolonged absence of water in a region leads to drought conditions, the entire ecosystem suffers. Among those hardest hit are farmers, and the impact on their land can have ripple effects on the larger population. These larger problems can range from health issues or food security, while also creating conditions that increase the risk of wildfires and dust storms.

Created by five technologists from the IBM offices in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, Liquid Prep is a solution designed for low-literate farmers in developing countries whose success hinges on access to advanced agricultural advice. By leveraging the use of an intuitive mobile Android app, local soil sensors, and weather forecast information as well as an advanced agricultural decision platform hosted on IBM Cloud, farmers are better informed on how to use limited water supplies and increase their chances of growing healthy crops for their small plots of land.

- [**Linux-ready SBCs and mini-PCs run Ryzen Embedded, including new 8-10W R1305G**](#)[6]

Sapphire unveiled NP-FP5 and BP-FP5 SBCs with Ryzen V1000 and R1000 SoCs plus a G-series board, and Simply NUC revealed Red Oak (NP-FP5) and Post Oak (BP-FP5) mini-PCs based on the Ryzen SBCs. The NP-FP5 and Red Oak support AMD?s new 8-10W R1305G.

At Embedded World, Sapphire Technology announced a pair of 4 x 4-inch (101.6 x 101.6mm) SBCs that run Linux or Win 10 on AMD?s x86-based Ryzen Embedded V1000 and R1000 SoCs. The dual 4K display NP-FP5 and more feature-rich, triple 4K display BP-FP5 SBCs support the same V1000 and R1000 models. The lower-end NP-FP5 also supports the low-power, 8-10W TDP R1305G, which was announced today by AMD along with a 6W R1102G.

- [**Mirantis co-founder launches FreedomFi to bring private LTE networks to enterprises**](#)[7]

Boris Renski, the co-founder of Mirantis, one of the earliest and best-funded players in the OpenStack space a few years ago (which then mostly pivoted to Kubernetes and DevOps), has left his role as CMO to focus his efforts on a new startup: FreedomFi. The new company brings together open-source hardware and software to give enterprises a new way to leverage the newly opened 3.5 GHz band for private LTE and ? later ? 5G IoT deployments.

- **[WordPress 5.4 Beta 3](#)** [8]

    WordPress 5.4 Beta 3 is now available!

    This software is still in development, so we don?t recommend you run it on a production site. Consider setting up a test site to play with the new version.

    [...]

    WordPress 5.4 is slated for release on March 31st, 2020, and we need your help to get there.

    Thanks to the testing and feedback from everyone who tested beta 2 (and beta 1) over 24 tickets have been closed in the past week.

- **[Luis Villa: Surviving 2020 on Twitter](#)** [9]

    At some point in the past few years, I accepted that I?m going to have a baseline level of anger about the state of the world, and that I have to focus on what I can change and let go of what I can?t. (Twitter anger is the latter.) So what can I change? Where is my anger productive?

    I?ve found that doing things offline?for me, mostly giving money?really helps. In particular, giving to causes that seek systemic (usually, that means political/government) change like 350.org and local activist groups, and giving a lot, and regularly. This, frankly, makes it a lot easier for me to ignore anger online ? each new tweet is not likely to make me be more angry, or give more, because I?m already basically giving what I can. Being confident about that really reduced my FOMO when I started filtering aggressively.

    I hear from non-parents/non-startup-founders that physical-world activism (door-knocking, phone banking, local gov meeting-attending, etc.) can be great in this way too but sadly I can?t confirm 😬

    (I also want to acknowledge that, in the current state of the world, ?letting go? gets harder the less privilege you have. I have no great response to that, except to say that I empathize and am trying to fight for you where and how I can.)

- **[Why Source Code Scanning Tools are Essential to Open Source Compliance](#)** [10] **[Ed: This promotes proprietary software of**

Microsoft 'proxies', along with FUD, to make proprietary software sales]

> There are many scanning tools and vendors to choose from. For example, Black Duck, WhiteSource, and FOSSA are well-known vendors that offer scanning tools on a subscription basis. FOSSology is an open source scanning tool maintained by the Linux Foundation, but it doesn?t come with a pre-populated library of open source code or software repository, which you would need to build on your own.

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[Google and Microsoft are scaring consumers over Edge extensions, and for what?](#)[11]

> Simply trying to install a Chrome extension via the Chrome Web Store actually requires navigating through several warnings, from both Google and Microsoft, about where to go to install an extension. The confusion and frustration this no doubt creates with users reflects poorly on both sides.

[Misc](#)

Source URL: http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/134513

Links:

[1] http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/78
[2] https://blogs.oracle.com/linux/hands-on-lab%3A-oracle-linux-disk-encryption-using-network-based-key-services
[3] https://www.phoronix.com/scan.php?page=news_item&px=Mir-1.7.1-Released
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