

2013 year-end link clearance

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Raymond Chen

Another round of the semi-annual link clearance.

- [Testing informercial workout systems.](#)
- [Understanding the Galaga No-Fire cheat.](#)
- [Fixing E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial for the Atari 2600.](#)
- [Reasons My Son Is Crying.](#)
- [A technical look at the Win32 thread pool.](#)
- [Creative usernames and Spotify account hijacking.](#) This is a fascinating security issue caused by a helper library erroneously assuming that the Unicode specification will never change. It's also one of the nightmare scenarios for backward compatibility: A change in behavior silently introduces a security vulnerability into existing code.

And, as always, the obligatory plug for my column in TechNet Magazine:

[The retirement of TechNet Magazine](#) also spells the end of the *Windows Confidential* column, so this is the last of the obligatory plugs, at least until I have some other obligatory thing to plug.

[Raymond Chen](#)

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