(Continuation of Sept 30 discussion of recent articles)

 in **Windows Secrets,** Kim Komando, Ask Leo and/or other newsletters

Charles Sestokas
        Lexington Computer and Technology Group Oct 21, 2015

 Many ways of getting information for example Political Rallies:

 A late 3 month review, recent Newspaper article, have someone at the Political Rally

 { to each their own! }

**My Disclaimer - been with Fred Langa way back when he did his own Newsletter
  then Fred joined the Windows Secrets consortium**

**I receive the PAID Version (for a low nominal {Voluntary Contribution} amount) - I, and several others here Paul, Allan, myself, Gary and who knows who else
   get the Paid version**

**Lots of Computer type of Newsletters ... each of us get to choose,
   and Windows Secrets does NOT put me on
      a multitude of SPAM Email lists (their Policy)**

One of the Regular Writers, Contributors is
    Susan Bradley who follows and writes the Windows Patch column.

 and a bit of insight into Susan Bradley type of work

http://www.computerworld.com/article/2994130/windows-pcs/customers-petition-microsoft-ceo-satya-nadella-demand-changes-to-windows-10-update-practices.html

Customers petition Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, demand changes to Windows 10 Update practices
  by Gregg Keizer Oct 17, 2015 Computerworld

 <excerpt>

in Computerworld "Customers petition Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, demand changes to Windows 10 update practices" where Susan Bradley has a major part in 'We have a right to know what you are placing on our computers,' says one signer of Change.org Petition that asks Microsoft to cede more control of updating to users"

 { provides an insight to the Professional Level that make up the Windows Secrets Newsletter }

In late August, Bradley kicked off a Windows 10 request on Microsoft's own Windows User Voice website, asking the company to provide more information about the OS's updates. The Change.org petition was more expansive: Bradley asked Microsoft to also change how it delivers Windows 10 updates.

"We need the ability to delay or hide damaging updates that impact the computing experience, have undesirable side effects such as blue screens of death, or reduce the functionality to attached devices," Bradley wrote. "As long-time Windows users, we understand the need to have quicker and more agile security updating. But this agility should not introduce additional risks to our systems."

Bradley also called on Nadella to push his Windows team into giving users more information than the cryptic, boilerplate text that accompanies each update. "Microsoft should provide detailed information ... along with what system changes we should see. We applaud the cumulative-update model, but the lack of documentation doesn't let us perform the due diligence required for safely deploying and maintaining Windows 10 systems in our organizations."

Supporters echoed Bradley's requests as they added their names to the petition.

"These changes are necessary if Windows 10 is to succeed. Keeping users in the dark and force-feeding updates with no recourse is not acceptable in an era of 'more personal' computing," wrote Dennis Barr on Friday, using the phrase Microsoft has adopted for one of its segments, the "More Personal Computing" group that encompasses Windows and the firm's own devices.

"Having no control of when and what updates are applied to the OS, especially from a business network environment, is folly," added Aaron Jervis, also on Friday.

"We have a right to know what you are placing on our computers," said Jim Mitchem on Saturday.

Numerous petitioners said that they would refuse to upgrade their personal PCs to Windows 10, or push their company's systems to the new OS, until Microsoft recants and gives them more say about what is installed and when.

Those threats -- and the Change.org petition itself -- are unlikely to move Microsoft. Not only were the 1,600-odd petitioners a drop in the vast Windows bucket -- Microsoft recently claimed that Windows 10 now powers 110 million machines -- but past pleas on the site have failed to jar technology firms into action.

Attempting to answer whether MS is snooping

By Susan Bradley on October 1, 2015 in **Top Story**

Microsoft has recently released updates to Windows 7
  that allow it to gather more information about our PCs.
But is the company really tracking what we do on our systems?
   And can this data gathering be turned off?

- **Sending system stats back to ground control**

- **Backporting Win10 telemetry tools to Win7/8.1**

- **Other attempts to track telemetry transmissions**

- **The 'Everyone does it, so it's okay' argument**

- **The difficult decisions for personal privacy**

I'm keeping the service disabled on my Win7
  (and probably my Win10 systems, too),
until I find out exactly what is being sent to Microsoft
— or I feel more comfortable with the telemetry process.
And I'm keeping a closer eye on all other Web-attached services and software.
No matter what you think about Edward Snowden, he made all of us far more aware
of how our personal data might be used.