



## TECH FLASH

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### QUOTABLE

*'Allston will be the place to be for anyone who wants to watch the ripple of his or her idea spread and gain speed.'*

— **FORMER MICROSOFT CEO STEVE BALLMER**, after giving enough money — about \$60 million — to Harvard to add 12 more computer science professors to the staff, who will be located in Allston.

### IN BRIEF

#### CARE.COM CFO RESIGNS, FORMER CFO TO STEP IN

Care.com, the Waltham-based provider of caregiver services, said its chief financial officer will resign later this month after more than a year on the job.

John Leahy, who previously was CFO at Bedford-based iRobot, will resign officially on Nov. 29, according to the company. Leahy has been at Care.com since April 2013.

Leahy will start as CFO of Boston-based education company Cengage on Dec. 1.

Steve Boulanger, the former CFO of Care.com who had been working until recently in the same position at Natick storage company Nasuni Corp., was named the interim CFO while the company completes its search process for a permanent chief financial officer.

#### GSN GAMES MOVES WALTHAM OFFICE TO BOSTON

GSN Games, the game development arm of the Game Show Network, has moved its local office from Waltham to Boston.

The company, whose owner is based in Santa Monica, Calif., moved into a 37,800-square-foot office at 100 Summer St. in Boston's Financial District. GSN Games currently employs 130 in Boston, and the new space can accommodate up to 240 employees. Currently, the company is hiring 10 employees at its Boston office.

GSN Games is behind the GSN Casino mobile app, gaming website GSN.com, and earlier this year it acquired Bash Gaming for an estimated \$160 million to \$170 million.

#### GMZ ENERGY PREPS FOR SELF-POWERED GAS BOILER

Waltham-based GMZ Energy has demonstrated its first product: a self-powered gas boiler that has the ability to keep homes warm during natural disasters and extended power outages.

The boiler continues to operate without interruption because it incorporates GMZ's thermoelectric module that converts a portion of the system's internal heat directly into electricity. The company said the self-powered boiler might be a low-cost alternative to a generator for a whole house.

## How this nonprofit will help give more web users anonymity



The Mozilla Foundation, the nonprofit organization that makes the popular Firefox web browser, has teamed up with a Cambridge group, the Tor Project, to offer people a more anonymous web browsing experience. Over the next few months, those who download Firefox as their web browser might notice something a little different. According to Andrew Lewman, executive director of the open source privacy network Tor Project, the partnership will offer consumers the option to keep their identity, location and data away from government monitors and hackers. The so-called Polaris project with Mozilla is a first for the Tor Project — a nonprofit funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor and the Ford Foundation, among others — and will mean more protections for users of Firefox and Thunderbird, a free, open-source email application created by Mozilla. Lewman said Tor has 30 full-time employees, including six in Cambridge's Central Square. The project has "a few hundred" development volunteers with about 6,000 "relay volunteers," who help to keep the network secure and private.



COURTESY PHOTO

Andrew Lewman.

**Can you tell me about the Tor Project's involvement in Polaris? What does this latest news mean?** Mozilla reached out to us for help with improving privacy across their product and service lines. We have shared values in open standards and privacy so the partnership is natural. Mozilla provides us engineering and network support to help us scale and grow to address the increasing privacy needs of everyone on the Internet today.

**What does it mean to get the backing of Mozilla?** Mozilla is an industry leader in developing features to support the user's desire for increased privacy online and shares the Tor Project's mission of helping people protect their security online. At the core of Mozilla's values is the belief that individuals' privacy cannot be treated as optional. We share this belief. Millions of people

around the world rely on the protection of the Tor software and network to safeguard their anonymity. We appreciate companies like Mozilla that see the importance of safeguarding privacy.

**What's the future of privacy online?** The future looks bright. Everyone is thinking about privacy. The future is to give the power to the people to control their data. People are concerned about data breaches, data theft, and loss of security and privacy online. Tools which can provide privacy and security of your private information are the future. Families want to talk to each other around the globe without having those conversations leaked, insecure or exposed.

— David Harris



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