

## HACKERS BRIEF

from CyberWyoming

### FAKE PAYPAL TEXT REPORTED BY LARAMIE CITIZEN

If you receive a text saying "(PayPal.com) Your account has been limited. Log in and take the steps requested > http://erawanbikes.com/pay-pal-verify.php" a Laramie citizen wants you to know that it is fake. *CyberWyoming Note: When we tried to look up erawanbikes.com to see if it was real and being impersonated, our antivirus software stopped us claiming it was a malicious site.*

### AMAZON DOESN'T SEND INVOICES THROUGH GMAIL

A Sheridan citizen reported an Amazon impersonation email with the subject line of "Your order has been shipped" from a Gmail address spoofed as "Purchase Information". The dead giveaways on the email were the reversal of the day and month, bold type, and odd capitalization. Do not call the number to cancel or modify the fake order.

### THE HACKER'S BRIEF IS INTERNATIONAL

A concerned and interested citizen of Albania has started printing the scams seen in his community and reporting them to the CyberWyoming Alliance. These scams are similar to many seen in our community, including

- Dying widow scams that ask for help with charitable investments while quoting the Bible, usually from a Gmail address.
- Powerball lottery winner impersonation scam saying the new winner would like to donate to lucky people and charities.
- Help me get my money out of Russia (or Ukraine) scams. (These are usually money laundering scams or scams to get money from you to help 'move the funds'.)

### AVOID A SCAMMER'S MONEY GRAB DURING OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Elderly Americans are a prime target for scammers. Because May is Older Americans Month, the FTC partnered to help older Americans recognize scams. Some of the biggest signs of an internet scam are wiring money, paying with gift cards or cryptocurrency, and mimicking the government agencies. These scams are targeted toward older Americans and recognizing these tactics is the best step towards keeping your money in your wallet.

### ANTIVIRUS RACKET

If you think paying for Internet security is already expensive, how will you feel when you get an email saying you just paid \$280 for antivirus protection supposedly called "geek squad"? There is a legit outfit called Geek Squad (operated by Best Buy) but it's nothing to do with them. This email contains a phone number you're presumably supposed to call if you dispute the charge. We all know what likely happens next -- you'll be asked to provide personal banking details or other information. Just delete it. *Brought to you by Scambusters.org.*

### PIG BUTCHERING ISN'T JUST FOR SWINE

According to Scambusters.org, a new scam called pig butchering starts as a romance scam on a dating website or via social media. The crook presents themselves as good-looking, wealthy, and they never ask for money. Instead the crook mentions profits & losses they are making in cryptocurrency trading, slipping in comments throughout the conversation. Eventually, the victim asks about the crook's investment strategy and the crook leads the victim to a very convincing cryptocurrency website that even shows gains in the investment. But when the victim tries to make a withdrawal, they are given excuses.

### INSTAGRAM "SUSPENSION"

If you're an Instagram user, don't be taken in by a new fake warning that you've violated copyright in one of your posts. The text or email says your account will be suspended unless you want to dispute it. A link in the message takes you to a realistic looking site where you're asked to sign on and provide other personal information. Just don't. Instagram doesn't do this. *Brought to you by scambusters.org.*

### THE FTC ENCOURAGES YOU TO REJECT A JOB OR MONEY-MAKING SCAM OFFER

Unemployment scams include fake jobs, business opportunities, or business coaching. Job scams are when fraudsters post fake and once people apply for the job, the scammers require an application to steal your personal information, interview you, may require you to pay for a background check up front (to be reimbursed with your first paycheck), and may even send you a fake check to deposit. Fake business opportunities are often in the form of pyramid schemes where they 'employ' you to sell products, require you to buy the products, and recruit others to do the same. Unless you can convince others to sign up, you are left with expensive products that you may not be able to afford. Business coaching scams, where people pretend to be professionals that help with the success of a business, often require payments for training and consulting. It is always better to go to your local economic development agency like the SBDC, Wyoming Manufacturing Works, or the Wyoming Women's Business Center, free programs that offer the same services in a proven format.

### Other ways to report a scam:

- Better Business Bureau Scam Tracker: [www.bbb.org/scam-tracker/us/reportscam](http://www.bbb.org/scam-tracker/us/reportscam)
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at [ftc.gov/complaint](http://ftc.gov/complaint)
- Report your scam to the FBI at <https://www.ic3.gov/complaint>
- Reported unwanted calls to the Federal Trade Commission's Do Not Call Registration. Online at <https://complaints.donotcall.gov/complaint/complaintcheck.aspx> or call 1-888-382-1222, option 3
- Office of the Inspector General: <https://oig.ssa.gov/>
- AARP Fraud Watch Network (any age welcome) Helpline 877-908-3360
- IRS: report email scams impersonating the IRS to phishing@irs.gov
- Call the Wyoming Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) for assistance with potential Medicare fraud, abuse, or errors at 800 856-4398

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## GUEST COLUMN

# Help celebrate Older Americans Month

Older adults play vital, positive roles in our communities — as family members, friends, mentors, volunteers, civic leaders, members of the workforce and more. Just as every person is unique, so too is how they age and how they choose to do it — and there is no right way. That's why the theme for Older Americans Month 2022 is "Age My Way."

Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads the celebration of OAM. This year's theme focuses on how older adults can age in their communities, living independently for as long as possible and participating in ways they choose.

While Age My Way will look different for each person, here are common things everyone can consider:

- Planning: Think about what you



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will need and want in the future, from home and community-based services to community activities that interest you.

- Engagement: Remain involved and contribute to your community through work, volunteer, and/or civic participation opportunities.

- Access: Make home improvements and modifications, use assistive technologies, and customize supports to help you better age in place.

- Connection: Maintain social activities and relationships to combat social

isolation and stay connected to your community.

Diverse communities are strong communities. Ensuring older adults remain involved and included in our communities for as long as possible benefits everyone. Join The Hub on Smith in strengthening our community. Whether it's attending a Doc Talk, playing BINGO, signing up as a driver for a Home-Delivered Meal or participating in any of our programs/activities, you can be a part of the local Age My Way movement.

For more information, visit the official OAM website, follow ACL on Twitter and Facebook, and join the conversation using #OlderAmericansMonth.

LINDSAY KLUG is development coordinator at The Hub on Smith.



MATTHEW GASTON | THE SHERIDAN PRESS

## Hiding out

One of two black bear cubs is treed by a Jack Russell terrier at the Gallatin Ranch Thursday, May 12, 2022.

# Grandma earns honorary degree for aiding New Mexico community

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — An 84-year-old woman has received an honorary degree from Northern New Mexico College for her contributions to the small community north of Española.

The degree was awarded Saturday to Socorro Herrera.

"I'm not the type that likes

to show off, but they gave me that honorary degree, and I'm glad," Herrera told the Santa Fe New Mexican in an interview after the ceremony.

According to the newspaper, Herrera is a great grandmother and is known for feeding the elderly, singing at weddings and run-

ning Socorro's Restaurant, a staple of the little town that has drawn customers including former President Barack Obama and famed actor John Travolta.

Herrera was born in the same house in Hernández where she operates the restaurant for the past 28 years.

She married at 16, had the first of her four children by the time she was 17 and didn't graduate from high school back then.

But now, Herrera is on her way to holding a diploma from the Peñasco Independent School District.

She has six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

# Walz, top lawmakers, reach bipartisan deal to wrap session

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Democratic Gov. Tim Walz and legislative leaders announced Monday that they struck a bipartisan deal on a broad framework for parceling out a massive budget surplus with a week remaining in the session. The deal would devote \$4 billion to tax relief, and another \$4 billion to spending on education, public safety and health care. It would also leave \$4 billion in the bank to guard against downturns amid the current economic uncertainty. The plan signed by Walz, Republican Senate Majority Leader Jeremy Miller and Democratic House Speaker Melissa Hortman includes \$1 billion for education, \$1 billion for health care and human services, \$450 million for public safety and the judiciary, and \$1.5 billion in other spending.

It also calls for \$1.5 billion for a public works construction package known as a bonding bill that would use \$1.4 billion in borrowing and \$150 million in cash. The leaders were expected to provide further details later Monday, but they said the full plan would be finalized in the days to come. The Legislature, which struggled all session to reach bipartisan agreements on how to use the state's \$9.25 billion budget surplus, must adjourn by next Monday.

"With an unprecedented surplus, we have the ability to make significant investments in the things that will improve Minnesotans' lives, like health care, public safety, and education, while also providing tax cuts and putting money in Minnesotans' pockets," Walz said in a joint statement.



**DINING ROOM HOURS:**  
Monday-Friday • 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**BREAKFAST**  
7:00-9:00 a.m.

**LUNCH**  
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**A CENTER FOR ALL GENERATIONS**

Entrée choice or soup/salad. Entrée only offered for home delivered meals.		
<p><b>TUESDAY, MAY 17</b> Lasagna Caesar salad French bread Vegetable medley Apple pie bars</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 18</b> Chicken primavera Angel hair Peas and carrots Garlic focaccia Melon</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY, MAY 19</b> Pot roast, potatoes and vegetables Garden salad Roll Chocolate surprise cake</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY, MAY 20</b> Beef stroganoff Egg noodles Steamed beets Chocolate chip cookies</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY, MAY 21</b> Chicken fried steak Mash potatoes and country gravy Carrots Fruit</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY, MAY 22</b> Macaroni and cheese w/ham Asparagus Berries and cream White roll</p>
<p><b>MONDAY, MAY 23</b> Turkey noodle soup Biscuit Vegetable medley Molasses cookie</p>	<p><b>Renew your registration now! Updates are subject to change.</b></p> <p>Find us on the internet at <a href="http://www.thehubsheridan.org">www.thehubsheridan.org</a> or on Facebook: <a href="#">The Hub on Smith, a Center for All Generations.</a></p>	

Front desk: 307-672-2240  
Home delivered meals: 307-672-6079  
Loan closet: 307-672-1769  
Support center: 307-675-4954

Housing: 307-675-4957  
Fun and wellness: 307-675-4952  
Help at Home services: 307-675-1978  
Day Break adult care services: 307-674-496