

## HACKERS BRIEF

### from CyberWyoming

#### DICK’S SPORTING GOODS IMPERSONATION

A Big Horn citizen reported an email with the subject line of “Congratulations!” impersonating Dick’s Sporting Goods encouraging you to answer a survey and win a Yeti backpack cooler.

#### TUT.COM SCAMS CONTINUE

This time a Sheridan citizen reported an impersonation of Ace Hardware and the three credit reporting agencies from a tut.com email address. The links continue to redirect to a UK company with Christmas cards in the address. The subject lines were “2nd attempt for [redacted name]” and “Your Transunion Equifax and Experian 2022.” *CyberWyoming Note: We have notified the real Tut.com that these are occurring and hope that this will be resolved soon.*

#### SECURITY EXPIRATION SCAM

If you receive an email from “Support Team” at a Gmail address, it is a big clue that real companies that sell McAfee antivirus software don’t use Gmail addresses. Also, the email charges \$389.89 for the software and it retails for under \$25. Don’t call the number in the email. Reported by a Sheridan citizen.

#### WINNER OF AN IPHONE SCAM

Another email from the Tut.com email address is spoofed as ip-hone14 and even has the registered trademark ® in the sender’s address. The subject is “[Name redacted], We have a surprise for you!” Note the misspelling in the subject line and remember that iPhone would never send anything out with errors like that! Reported by a Sheridan citizen.

#### DO YOU NEED A LOAN?

If you receive an email saying they have 3% loans and to contact a Gmail address representing Dr. Robert James, a Laramie citizen wants you to know it is a scam.

#### NO GIVEAWAYS

Recent publicity for big number lottery prizes has tempted crooks to revive a longstanding scam in which they pretend to be winners wanting to give away some of their winnings to random people. Using SMS texts and emails, they usually spoof the names of actual winners so it looks like their offer is legit. Recipients are told to call an untraceable number where they’re instructed to pay “processing fees,” which can run into thousands of dollars. Remember that, while many lottery winners have chosen to donate to worthy causes, there’s no record of any of them ever giving away money at random. You’re just not going to be that lucky! *Brought to you by scambusters.org.*

#### AARP REMINDER - PUT THE BRAKES ON DMV SCAMS

If you receive a text message from Wyoming’s DMV that requests payment for overdue fees and threatens license suspension, ignore it. Also watch for fuel rebate scams. Finally, double check your web search – there are fakes sites out there. Wyoming’s real DMV website is through Wyoming’s Department of Transportation <https://dot.state.wy.us/home.html>.

#### VIRTUAL SCHOOL? WATCH FOR APPS COLLECTING DATA

According to the Washington Post, one learning app used by 60,000 US schools contained code capable of identifying a student’s unique ID from their phone or school-issued device, which could then be used to track them, learn what they were interested in buying, and push ads to them for these products. A Human Rights Watch study found that nearly 90 percent of the remote education tools they investigated were designed to send data about classes and individual students to advertising technology firms, including Google and Facebook. This would enable them to discover students’ interests and buying behaviors. What to do? Review the privacy settings in the teaching application that your children use and contact your local school district if you have concerns. *Brought to you by scambusters.org.*

#### FTC ALERT STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT PAUSE

Scammers often take advantage of current events. With the extension granted until December 31, 2022 to pause student loan payments, remember that you don’t need to do anything or pay anybody to sign up for the new program or the pause. No one can get you in early, help you jump the line or guarantee eligibility. Just check with your federal loan servicer.

#### MS-ISAC AND CISA PATCH NOW ALERT

The Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) or the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has published a patch now (update your software) alert for Apple, Cisco’s Secure Web Appliance, and Google’s Chrome browser products. If you use these products, make sure the software (or firmware) is updated.

#### Other ways to report a scam:

- Better Business Bureau Scam Tracker: [www.bbb.org/scamtracker/us/reportscam](http://www.bbb.org/scamtracker/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](mailto:phishing@irs.gov)
- Call the Wyoming Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) for assistance with potential Medicare fraud, abuse, or errors at 800-856-4398

#### VICTIM SUPPORT

The AARP Fraud Watch Network and Volunteers of America (VOA) created a new, free program to provide emotional support for people impacted by a scam or fraud, called ReST. Visit [www.aarp.org/fraud-support](http://www.aarp.org/fraud-support) to learn more about the free program and register.



307.674.0464 | [www.efirstfederal.bank](http://www.efirstfederal.bank)



MATTHEW GASTON | THE SHERIDAN PRESS

## Waiting his turn

Pilot and enthusiast Art Mulkey waits patiently for the runway to clear before sending “The Beast” up during the Flying Cowboys annual Fly-in Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022.

## ‘Plant Doctor’ nurtures 250 species from around the globe

SEWANEE, Tenn. (AP) — Some folks have a green thumb. Seems like 21-year-old Oliver Hutchens has two of them and maybe eight green fingers to boot. Entering his senior year at The University of the South, the biology major, who is concentrating in ecology, serves as manager of the Sewanee greenhouse, a place he refers to as his “home away from home.”

More jungle than home sweet domicile, this 30 foot by 18-foot greenhouse flourishes with flora from around the world, 270 specimens in all, most of them a marvelous gift from Vanderbilt University in late 2019. Previously, this glass building tacked on the side the Woods Center held but three plants: two aloe vera and a blue cereus, one of the few blue cacti.

Hutchens, who grew up in Smyrna and graduated from the Webb School in Bell Buckle in 2019, described the hothouse, saying, “It’s a world tour of plant diversity: a sea of green, big and small leaves. These are all plants from the other side of the globe. Basically, every single plant in the greenhouse is from outside the country.”

Regarding the 13,000-acre Sewanee Domain, which is considered the most plant-diverse campus in the world, he says, “It’s like a mini-national park, a fantastic place to study ecology and biology.”

Hutchens, the son of Robbie and David Hutchens and grandson of long-time Lebanon educators Annabelle and Jim Robinson, began fawning over flora while working on a project his junior year in high school that had him growing tomatoes.

“They did amazingly well. They piled up. I had so many I didn’t know what to do with them,” he recalled. “When I started paying attention to plants and how they grow and how they’re doing, I grew interested in plants. When I came to Sewanee in the middle of COVID, I found this beautiful greenhouse waiting for me. I asked Dr. Jon Evans, who runs it, if I could get a tour of the place. He showed me everything, and I never left after that. Now two years later, I’m the student greenhouse manager.

“This collection came to us two years ago from the Vanderbilt University botany program. It shut down, and the professor there thought, ‘I have hundreds upon hundreds of plants from around the world about to be trashed.’ And he remembered the Sewanee greenhouse and contacted my professor.

“We’re still trying to figure out what to do with the whole collection, and that’s where I fit in.

When I first came in, I did not know what to do. I decided to give greenhouse tours and build events around it. On Friday afternoons I would be there and talk about carnivorous plants or flowers. The best thing I did was ‘Plant Doctor Fridays.’ I’d tell people to bring in their house plants or plants from their dorm window if you’re having trouble with them. I started getting the nickname ‘the Plant Doctor’ on campus.”

About his eager-beaver flora fancier, Sewanee Herbarium director Evans said, “I chose Oliver to be a Block Botany Fellow at Sewanee because

of his passion for plants. It quickly became apparent to me that he has a special understanding of plants and their care. Based on this I made him the student manager of our fabulous tropical plant collection in the biology department greenhouse. It has been wonderful to see him pour his heart and soul into this responsibility.

“Oliver initiated a program in association with our greenhouse called ‘Plant Fridays.’ Students bring their plants to the greenhouse to get advice about their care. Word has gotten out about this opportunity and students seem to really enjoy connecting with Oliver about their plants.”

Hutchens said reaction has been mixed with some days a dozen or more coming for the tour and other days a trickle, but on Plant Doctor days he has lots of other plant lovers coming in to have their sickly plants diagnosed. As for what ails many of the plants he checks out, quite often it is due to a bad soil mix, too much or too little water or just a matter of repotting the plant in a bigger vase.

Of the scores of exotic plants that surround him here, numerous species draw his attention. Currently, his favorite specimens are three species of air plants called tillandsia from Central/South America that are the same genus as Spanish moss. One of them has three pop-out flowers on a tiny little stalk, which he described as “incredibly cute.”

Then there is Euphorbia greenwayi from Tanzania, which he says is “the most alien-looking plant you’ve ever seen. It has no leaves.

**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.

**Entrée choice or soup/salad. Entrée only offered for home delivered meals.**

<b>TUESDAY, SEPT. 13</b> Chicken Alfredo Garlic Bread Green Beans Toffee Blondies	<b>WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14</b> Open Faced Turkey Sandwich Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy Veg Medley Fruit	<b>THURSDAY, SEPT. 15</b> Lasagna Caesar Salad Veg Medley Garlic Bread Fruit
<b>FRIDAY, SEPT. 16</b> Glazed Ham Baked Potato Broccoli Roll Chocolate Chip Cookie	<b>MONDAY, SEPT. 19</b> Kielbasa & Sautéed Cabbage Mashed Potatoes Carrots Fruit	<b>Renew your registration now! Updates are subject to change.</b>

**Find us on the internet at [www.thehubsheridan.org](http://www.thehubsheridan.org) or on Facebook: The Hub on Smith, a Center for All Generations.**

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

Purchase photos directly from our website  
[thesheridanpress.com](http://thesheridanpress.com)

If the photo is available for purchase, a “Buy Now” button will appear below the photo.

[thesheridanpress.com](http://thesheridanpress.com) | 144 Grinnell Plaza | 307.672.2431

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE. OPEN TO CANDIDATES AND THE PUBLIC. ATTEND EITHER SESSION AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

## SCHOOL BOARD INFORMATION SESSION

<b>6 pm Sept 13th, 2022</b> Sheridan High School Sue Henry Auditorium 1056 Long Dr Sheridan, WY	<b>6 pm Sept 28th, 2022</b> Johnson County School District 1 Central Office 601 W Lott St Buffalo, WY
---	--

**PRESENTER:**  
**WYOMING SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION**

Hackers Brief from Cyber Wyoming brought to you by