Montana Servers Hacked - 1.3 Million People Affected

More than one million people received notifications this summer after someone inappropriately accessed Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) computers.

The computers contained health and insurance records and other confidential information. No information on the computers was destroyed during the intrusion.

DPHHS Director Richard Opper said that while there was no confirmation that any individual’s information was directly accessed, the department was notifying people “out of an abundance of caution.”

Letters were sent out letting people know that they would be able to sign up for a free 12-month membership in a credit and identification protection service - ProtectMyID. However, the DPHHS cannot directly enroll people in this service.

People who received the letter MUST ENROLL BY OCT. 7 in order to obtain the free protection service; instructions are in the letter.

DPHHS also recommended that people review benefits statements they receive from their insurers to make sure all listed benefits are accurate.

The intrusion was among several recent high-profile hacks that impacted people, ranging from state benefit recipients to bank account holders and store shoppers.

Anyone who has questions is encouraged to call the DPHHS toll-free Help Line, which is available Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.- 7 p.m. at: 1-800-809-2956.

Additional information is also available at www.dphhs.mt.gov.
UPCOMING EVENTS

FLATHEAD COUNTY

Social Security Orientation - First Friday of each month, 9 a.m. and third Friday, 1 p.m.
Women’s Discussion Group - Second and fourth Friday of each month, 1-3 p.m.
Sign Language Class - New classes start every few months.
Social Activities - We get together four times a year for social activities. Call the office to put your name on the mailing list so you won’t miss the next fun and exciting adventure.

Unless otherwise noted, classes and groups meet at:

Gateway Community Center, United Way Conference Room
1203 Hwy 2 West, Kalispell

Call Flo or Dianna at (406) 257-0048 for more information or to register.

RAVALLI COUNTY

Man Cave - Oct. 15, 12 - 2 p.m. (Chili feed)
People First - Tuesdays, 3-4 p.m.
Women on the Move - Oct. 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (Paper projects with Kathy Flynn)
TGIAF - Thank Goodness It’s Activity Friday - Fridays, 1-3 p.m.
Halloween Party - Oct. 28, 6-8 p.m., Corvallis Methodist Church
Hamilton High School YODA - Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, classes and groups meet at:

Human Resources Council Building, Summit Conference Room
316 N 3rd St., Hamilton

Call Joel or Mary at (406) 363-5242 for more information or to register.

Ravalli County Peer Advocate Takes Grand Prize!

Velda Vial, who has been a Summit peer for more than 10 years, took home a grand prize for a quilted bedspread she entered in the quilting competition at the annual Ravalli County Fair.

Velda has crocheted almost all of her life, and she does it using only her left hand, after childhood polio paralyzed the right half of her body.

The quilt was Velda’s first entry into the competition in 10 years. She says that she is grateful for winning, and that for her quilting is great therapy!

Congratulations, Velda!
Missoula County
Legislative Candidates Forum
Thursday, October 2
4-7 P.M.
Hilton Garden Inn
Missoula, MT

The Disability and Aging Alliance of Missoula in collaboration with Parents Let’s Unite for Kids, The Arc of Montana, and Disability Rights Montana is holding a Missoula County Legislative Candidates Forum moderated by Montana Public Radio’s William Marcus.

This forum will give candidates a chance to share their positions and views on the issues that are most important to Montana’s disability and older adult communities. Forums such as this help state policymakers know and understand the issues needing to be addressed as they relate to specific constituent groups when the 2015 session gets under way.

During this important forum, voters will have the opportunity to find out where their legislative candidates stand on supporting access to needed services.

Refreshments will be available from 6-7 P.M. and that time will be devoted for members of the public to socialize and meet with candidates to discuss their specific issues/questions.

Mark your calendars now and be sure to attend so you can be ready to cast your vote on Nov. 4!

One of the most important rights we enjoy as citizens of our state and nation is the right to vote for the people who represent us. This right is the foundation upon which our democratic form of government is based. Voting is a civic duty we should all feel privileged to perform. The opportunity is yours and only yours to go out and make a difference, to let your voice be heard to ensure the future for thousands of Montanans with disabilities. So use your right to vote and let lawmakers know that the disability vote counts!

For more information about the forum contact Travis Hoffman at 406-728-1630.

If you would like to follow the legislative priorities that Montana’s four Centers for Independent Living will be working on during the 2015 Legislative Session please visit:

www.summitilc.org/mtcil.html

You can also subscribe to the Montana Independent Living Action Alert email listserv to receive email alerts about important issues and opportunities to contact your representatives by sending an email to:

montana-il-action-alert+subscribe@googlegroups.com
MISSOULA COUNTY

Summit Closed - Nov. 11, Nov. 27-28, Dec. 25-26
Cold Stone Creamery Benefit - Every third Tuesday, 4-7 p.m., Cold Stone Creamery
Summit Orientation - First Friday of each month, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.
Income and Benefits - First Friday of each month, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
People First - First and Third Wednesday of each month, 4-5 p.m.
Arthritis Support Group - First Thursday of each month, 12-1 p.m.
Alzheimer's Support Group - Second Wednesday of each month, 12-2 p.m.
Epilepsy Support Group - First Monday of each month, 2-3:30 p.m.
ARIELS (Girl’s Youth Group) - First Friday of each month, 3:30-6 p.m.
Video Game Night - Second and fourth Thursday of each month, 3-6 p.m.
Youth Opening Doors through Advocacy (YODA) - Fourth Wednesday of each month, 3:30-6 p.m.
Art Group - Second and fourth Thursday of each month, 2-4 p.m.
Living Well Class - Mondays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Sept. 8 - Nov. 17
Working Well Class - Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Sept. 9 - Oct. 28
Self-Respect and Communications - Thursdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Oct. 2 - Nov. 20
Growing through Pain and Progressive Loss Class - Mondays, 1-3 p.m., Sep. 22 - Oct. 27
Independence and Gratitude Class - Mondays, 1-3 p.m., Nov. 3 - Dec. 1
Disability Mentoring Day - Oct. 15
Disability and Aging Alliance of Missoula Candidate Forum - Oct. 2, 4-7 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn
Silver Summit: A Playground for Everyone - Oct. 4, 4 p.m., McCormick Park
Election Day - Nov. 4

Unless otherwise noted, classes and groups meet at:

    Summit ILC, Summit's Conference Room
    700 SW Higgins, Suite 101, Missoula

Call Kathy at (406) 728-1630 for more information or to register.

WESTERN MONTANA PARKS GET AWESOME

Hot on the heels of the newly built Silver Summit: A Playground for Everyone, opening Oct., comes a $10,000 donation from the Kiwanis Club of Missoula to improve access at Kiwanis Park, and a project to build another inclusive park in the Flathead Valley.

The Missoula Parks and Recreation Department will have an online public survey later in the year to get input on playground features and design for Kiwanis Park.

To learn more about the Flathead project please visit:
http://neverstoprocking.com/about-me/24-playground-project
New Tennis Group!

A new tennis program at the PEAK Health & Wellness Center is looking for more members.

While many of the athletes are wheelchair users, people with other disabilities have joined the group, as well.

The three-month old program is staffed by volunteers from PEAK and the medical community.

To find out more about the free program, or if you wish to participate as an athlete or volunteer, please contact Tennis Director Scott Potter at (406) 251-3356 ext. 11. PEAK Health & Wellness Center is located at 5000 Blue Mountain Rd. in Missoula.

The tennis group hopes to meet two Wednesdays a month over the winter.
### Missoula County House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>District</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nate McConnell</td>
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<td>Ellie Hill</td>
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<td>Bryce Bennett</td>
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<td>David “Doc” Moore</td>
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<td>Nancy Wilson</td>
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<td>Brad Tschida</td>
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<td>Andrea Olsen</td>
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### Missoula County Senate

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<td>Cynthia Wolken</td>
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<td>Tom Facey</td>
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### Flathead/Lake/Mineral/Sanders County Senate

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<td>Lea Whitford</td>
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### Flathead/Lake/Mineral/Sanders County House

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<td>Jerry O’Neil</td>
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<td>Susan Webber</td>
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### Lincoln County House & Senate

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<td>Terence Gill</td>
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<td>Chas Vincent</td>
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<td>Donald Coats</td>
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<td>Steven Benson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Cuffe</td>
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</table>
Wildhorse! is a riding program with experience teaching people who have all forms of disabilities. We are getting back in the saddle in Montana after several successful years in California! Best riding days so far are Thursdays after school, and Saturday afternoons.

Our volunteers, including parents, learn to lead, tie, groom, tack up our horse and give her a preliminary ride or hand walk in the arena, outdoors or indoors. The volunteers also learn to follow individual lesson plans to help the students physically and emotionally. Volunteers, if they wish, receive lessons for whatever they can pay. We have never turned anyone away for lack of funds.

Wildhorse! is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horseman International certified program under the direction of registered riding instructor, Kari Ann, who has taught riding since 2001. We have taught children and adults with autism, ADHD, cerebral palsy, anorexia/bulimia, depression and anxiety. Wildhorse! is open to all physically and emotionally challenged adults. Our oldest student in California was 80 years old and had Parkinson’s. We have also taught a therapist who was phobic about horses; she overcame her phobia with Wildhorse!

Wildhorse! address:
Natural Horseman LLC
3701 East Carleton Creek Rd.
Florence, MT

Contact:
Director Dr. Kari Ann Owen
(406) 203 2412
saintbernardlover7@gmail.com
http://wildhorse.vpweb.com/
It's Your Right to Vote Privately!

Every polling place in Montana has at least one specialized voting machine that enables people with disabilities to vote independently and privately.

This machine, the AutoMARK, allows voters with disabilities and other special needs to mark a ballot privately and independently when using an optical scan voting system.

When using the AutoMARK, you vote on the same ballot that all other voters are using. The AutoMARK does not store any votes; it simply assists you to mark your ballot. The AutoMARK is easy to use. Let the election judge at your polling place know if you would like to vote on the AutoMARK.

The technology also provides language assistance to voters who are more comfortable speaking a different language or who need help to better understand written instructions.

If you have a physical disability or are unable to read or write, you may also ask an election judge to help you mark your ballot for you. You may also bring a friend or relative who, with the permission of the election judge, can go into the voting booth with you and help you vote.

If you would like to designate an agent to assist you with the voting process, download an application for designation of an agent. Deliver the signed application to your local election office.

To learn more or download forms please visit: http://sos.mt.gov/elections/Disabilities/

Remember, you can always sign up for the electronic newsletter by contacting: missoula@summitilc.org