AARP's Fraud Watch Network can help you spot and avoid scams. Sign up for free "Watchdog Alerts", review our scam-tracking map, or call our toll-free helpline, 877-908-3360 if you or a loved one suspect you've been a victim.



# FraudWatch Newsletter



Sophisticated Verizon Scam Alert: A Sheridan citizen reported a sophisticated Verizon scam involving a caller identifying as Lewis Thomas from an 888 area code number used for toll-free calls. The scammer claimed there was fraudulent activity on their Verizon account, specifically purchases of an iPad and Apple Watch allegedly shipped to California, and used personal details to make the story convincing. They followed up with a text attempting to gain account access and maintained a calm, professional, and persistent demeanor. The scam was only thwarted by intuition; Verizon confirmed when contacted directly that no fraudulent activity existed and that Verizon does not initiate such calls. CyberWyoming Note: Due to a government shutdown, reporting agencies like the FTC and IC3.gov are currently unavailable, which scammers may exploit. People are advised to only contact official customer service numbers, avoid clicking links or sharing codes from unsolicited contacts, trust their instincts, and save all scam details for future reporting. This incident highlights how convincing and dangerous such scams can be.



Part-Time Job, Full-Time Trouble: A Laramie resident received a mass scam text from a Moroccan phone number (+212) claiming to be from "Katie Moore at HireArt." The message advertised a part-time, remote assistant job paying \$250—\$500 per day, promising a guaranteed minimum of \$1,000 every four days. It claimed the job required 60—90 minutes of work per day, four days a week, with no prior experience needed, offered training, paid vacation, and flexible hours. CyberWyoming Note: Be cautious of unsolicited job offers promising high pay for minimal work, like this employment scam. Always verify job opportunities through official company channels before engaging. Be sure to block the sender's number, report the message, and delete it immediately.

Call The Wyoming Senior Medicare Patrol for assistance with potential Medicare fraud or abuse at 1-800-856-4398

## Information and resources to help you with...

- Find resources and information around VA benefits, health, caregiving, fraud and employment for retired and active-duty military and their families by going to aarp.org/veterans or calling our toll-free nationwide phone number 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).
- Family caregiving: Call the Caregiving Resource Center for a free Prepare to Care Guide (1-877-333-5885).
- Fraud and scams: Call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline toll-free (1-877-908-3360).



CyberWyoming Alliance's goal is for Wyoming to be the most cyber-secure state in the nation. To do this, we know that cybersecurity efforts have to be local, trusted, and grassroots in nature.



## If abuse, neglect, abandonment, intimidation or financial exploitation of an older adult is occurring, report it to Adult Protective Services.

#### Basics of what DFS/APS can do:

- If an abuse/neglect case is reported and opened, an APS Caseworker will respond within 24-72 hours, depending on immediate danger or impending harm.
- APS is mandated by statute to notify law enforcement.
- An APS Caseworker will interview the vulnerable adult to determine the facts of the situation.
- APS works with the vulnerable adult regarding availability of community services he/she is agreeable to receive in order to ensure his/her safety.

#### Basics of what DFS/APS cannot do:

- APS cannot force anyone to accept help, adults have the right to refuse.
- APS cannot force anyone to reside in a nursing home, APS is committed to keeping vulnerable adults as safe as possible, in their own homes.

#### How to make a report:

Call (307)777-7564 or click on dfs.wyo.gov/about/contact-us/ This is a link with contact information to each community in Wyoming that has a DFS office. APS abuse/neglect reports can also be made by contacting law enforcement in the community where the abuse is taking place.







## **Mobile Food Pantries Coming To Your Area:**

| NOV. 4 - LYMAN - BRIDGER VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH   | 4-7P          |
|--|---------------|
| NOV. 6 - PINEDALE - RENDEZVOUS POINT             | 11A-1P        |
| NOV. 7 - ROCK RIVER - 321 AVENUE D               | 10:30A-12:30P |
| NOV. 14 - HANNA - TOWN SHOP, 407 LOWE STREET     | 10A-12P       |
| NOV. 15 - BASIN - FAIRGROUNDS                    | 10A-12P       |
| NOV. 15 - KAYCEE - HAROLD JARRARD PARK           | 9A-11A        |
| NOV. 18 - BUFFALO - FAIRGROUNDS COMMUNITY BUILDI | NG 12-2P      |
| NOV. 20 - NEWCASTLE - FAIRGROUNDS                | 11A-1P        |
| NOV. 21 - WRIGHT - MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING         | 1-2 P         |
| NOV. 22 - KAYCEE - HAROLD JARRARD PARK           | 9-11A         |
| NOV. 20 - SHERIDAN- FAIRGROUNDS                  | 9-11A         |
| NOV. 24 - ROCK SPRINGS - WHITE MOUNTAIN MALL     | 11:30A-1P     |
| NOV. 24 - ARAPAHOE SCHOOL                        | 12-2PM        |
|  |               |

FOR MORE INFORMATION. CHECK OUT WYOMINGFOODBANK.ORG/FIND-FOOD OR CALL 1-877-265-2172.