MCI MicroBIT

MAGNOLIA CYBERSECURITY INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

Alyssa Muldong is one of the six winners for the OC Pathways Social Media Challenge

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MCI recruitment concludes on November 27, 2022 -- Application online

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Five Cyber students have secured internships for Web Design through our AIME Program

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28 Cyber students participating in the Disneyland Resort Executive Speaker Series

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51 Cyber students participating in the Vital Link Student Leadership Summit

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CA SUP. THURMOND VISITS MAGNOLIA

By Ella Vader

The best of Magnolia was on display on October 18, 2022, when a slew of esteemed guests, including State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and members of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and California Department of Education (CDE), visited Magnolia's Exclusive Cybersecurity Pathway, AUHSD Food Services, and the Magnolia Agriscience Community Center.

During the event, Tony Thurmond and AUHSD Superintendent Michael Matsuda, AUHSD Food Services Director Orlando Griego, AUHSD Food Services Assistant Director Tiffanie Bas, and AUHSD Student Ambassador Monty Aljadeed led conversations on food and nutrition services, farm-to-school programs, food deserts, and food as medicine during the event. They toured the MACC with other members of the USDA, CDE, AUHSD, and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies.

They also spoke with representatives from multiple cohorts of Magnolia's MCI and CS3² pathways. Cybersecurity students are seasoned speakers, having mastered the art of public communication through various leadership opportunities inside and outside of the classroom. We could not be prouder of the shining example they set for their peers and future applicants to the program.

LAUSD DATA BREACH

By Ansley Sousa and Ashley Sousa

A data breach is an incident where information is stolen or taken from a system without the knowledge or authorization of the system's owner.

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Hackers have released data stolen in a cyberattack against the Los Angeles Unified School District, Superintendent Alberto Carvalho confirmed on October 2nd. "Unfortunately, as expected, data was recently released by a criminal organization," Carvalho said in a statement. "In partnership with law enforcement, our experts are analyz-

Name/Email 7.8%

Name & Physical Adress 20%

Personal Health Info 18.4%

Payment & Banking 12.2%

Username/Password 3.8%

Other 16.2%

DOB & SSN 21.6%

ing the full extent of this data release." The data was released on October 1st -- two days before an October 3rd deadline previously given by the hackers -- after Carvalho's stated refusal to pay ransom to an international hacking syndicate. About 250,000 files were posted on the dark web, some containing Social Security numbers, contracts, W-9 tax forms, invoices, and passports. The Los Angeles Unified School District said roughly 500 gigabytes of data was stolen during the Labor Day weekend ransomware attack.

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SECURE OUR FUTURE
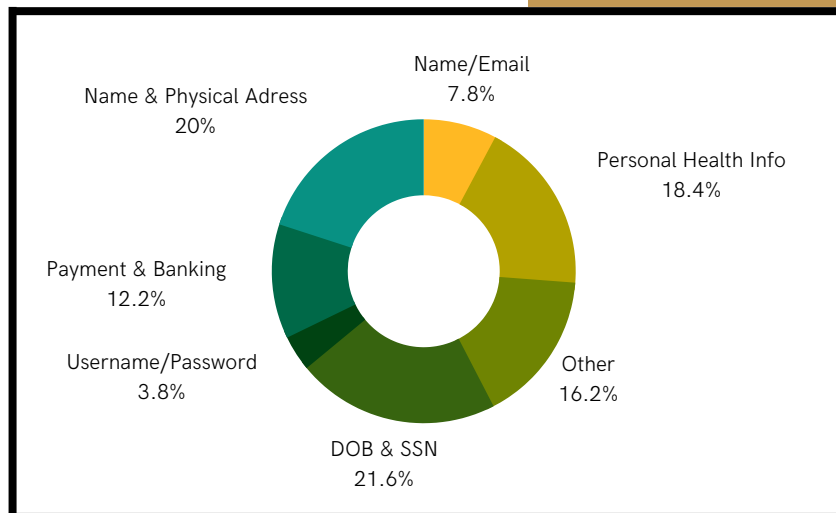
CYBER SAFETY TIP

By Gilmar Hernandez

Do you think you have a strong password? Coming up with a strong password may be an annoyance initially, but you'll thank yourself later. Most people have their accounts hacked because of weak or repeated passwords. Did you know that the most common password is *123456*? Passwords like these allow computers or hackers to solve your password instantly. It would be like locking your front door but leaving the key hanging on the door knob.

Here are some tips on how to make a stronger password:
- At least 8 - 10 characters long
- Complex (special characters, numbers, and capital letters)
- Try not to use common words/phrases in your password
- Use a password generator for complex password assistance
- Don't reuse passwords -- new password for each website

Plus do not ever write your usernames/passwords on a piece of paper or post-it note. Keep them in a password manager. This will keep your information safe and easily located to remind you of your passwords.

ELECTION DAY CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

By Jed Dye

Two of Magnolia's teachers created amazing civic engagement projects with their students on Election Day, November 8, 2022, to reflect on the importance of making your vote matter and voice heard.

Mrs. Paananen had her English students research and reflect on the seven California Propositions, then they had the chance to "vote" on each. At the end of the lesson, students were given the opportunity to reflect on what it takes to become a prepared voter.

Mr. Rodriguez's math students created bar charts on Desmos based on election spending. Once the majority of results are in, students will analyze and reflect on the relationship between campaign spending and voter outcomes. Stay tuned for exemplary student project samples!
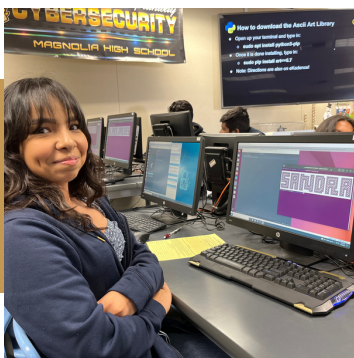
TERMINOLOGY

CRYPTOGRAPHY
A method of protecting information and communications through the use of codes, so that only those for whom the information is intended can read and process it.

PHISHING
When attackers send malicious emails designed to trick people into falling for a scam. Typically, the intent is to get users to reveal financial information, system credentials or other sensitive data.

RANSOMWARE
A type of malware that prevents or limits users from accessing their system, either by locking the system's screen or by locking the users' files until a ransom is paid.

SPOOFING
Someone or something pretends to be something else in an attempt to gain a victim's trust, get access to a system, steal data, or spread malware.

BOTNET
A collection of compromised computers that is gradually built up and then unleashed as a DDoS attack or used to send very large quantities of spam.

Upcoming Events

Student Leadership Summit
November 30, 2022 - 9:30am – 2:30pm

AIME Event – STEM Goes Red
December 2, 2022 – 9:30am – 2:30pm

Cyber Olympics
January 17 - 27, 2023