



SUBSCRIBE

LOGIN

REGISTER

Home News Local Sports Opinion A&E Life Business Contact Us



NEWSLETTERS

ADVERTISEMENT



Matt Rourke/AP Photo

The day the fraudster charged \$700 worth of stuff on Techman's credit card

ADVERTISEMENT



CED KURTZ
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

NOV 29, 2018

9:00 AM



It finally happened.



Some malefactor got hold of TechMan's credit card information and used it to buy more than \$700 worth of stuff.



This is what happened and what I learned:



My bank, the issuer of my credit card, called and said the staff there had noticed some unusual charges on my card and I should contact them. I immediately called up my account online. There were three consecutive charges for the same online retailer in the same amount. They were not mine.

Four Quick Questions

Do you think Congress will approve the USMCA agreement between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion
- I'm not following this story

NEXT



Ced Kurtz
Goodbye Facebook, and good riddance

LATEST BUSINESS

 After 30 years and three

It wasn't too smart on the part of the bad guy. The bank immediately flagged these identical charges and held payment. When I told the bank that I had not made the purchases, the staff said it would cancel the bogus charges.

I was not out any money but there would be inconvenience. The bank immediately canceled my card and said a new one would arrive in seven to 10 days.

Here is where the bother comes in.

If you do auto bill paying or have recurring charges made to your credit card, a card cancellation disrupts these payments. These could include insurance payments, web subscriptions and purchases on Amazon and other online retailers. Although most businesses will contact you when payment is denied, it is better to find your problem accounts and notify them.

If you have a second credit card, you can move these accounts to that card. If not, you must wait until your new one comes. A company may contact you and ask you to pay some other way.

Who stole my card number? I don't know and likely will never know. After the big hacks of companies like Equifax and numerous retailers, there are a multitude of credit card numbers for sale on the dark web.

While chip cards have cut down on fraud, "card not present" fraud is rising. Such fraud includes telephone, internet and mail order transactions in which the cardholder does not physically present the card to the merchant.



Ced Kurtz

Some of these new internet-connected devices are, well, creepy

The Nilson Report estimates that in 2016, credit fraud losses topped \$24.71 billion, a 12 percent increase over the previous year.

Here in brief are some commonsense rules to avoid the situation TechMan found himself in.

— Don't give your credit card information over the phone if you can avoid it.

— Don't let your credit card out of your physical possession. If lost, cancel immediately by calling the customer service number. Report any fraud to the card company, police and



transplants, UPMC-Highmark consent decree's end will sever relationships



Panda Asian restaurant in Crafton shut down by health department



Tariff tensions shadow U.S., Canada, Mexico trade pact signing; hurdles remain in Congress



Massive, extended data breach reported within Marriott's hotel empire



Pittsburgh Mills property owners could get hit with \$5.4 million bill

Pro Football

Miami's Jakeem Grant picked by AP as best returner

Cowboys have reason to think big after ending Saints' streak

Jets' Darnold questionable vs. Titans, McCown full practice

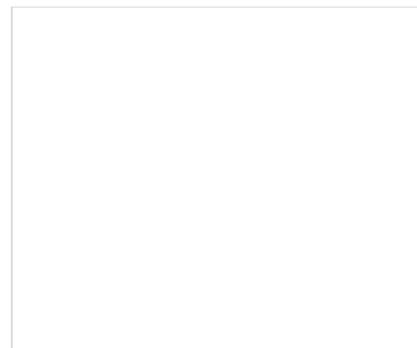
Brees, Saints never find rhythm as 10-game win streak ends

It's lit! Smith-Schuster steps into spotlight for Steelers

○○○ MORE

HOME

ADVERTISEMENT



ADVERTISEMENT

Create a free PG account.

Register - EDEF

the credit services.

- Don't give your card information out because of an email or a link in an email, even if it looks like it comes from a reputable source. It could be a spoof.
- Never submit your card information to a website that looks dicey (e.g., porn sites).
- Pay cash in restaurants so the waitperson doesn't take your credit card away from you to run it.
- Check your credit card statement online religiously.
- Don't lend your card to a friend or family member.

Send comments, contributions, corrections and condemnations to pgtechtexts@gmail.com.

RELATED



Ced Kurtz

Amazon informed me the return shipping charge would be \$6. The item cost \$9.

SHOW COMMENTS (0)

REGISTER - FREE

Already have an account?

Login



Archives	PGe
Advertising	RSS Feeds
Email Newsletter	Corrections
Contact Us	Help
Site Map	Products & Services
Subscriber Services	Terms of Use
About Us	Privacy Policy

Copyright © 1997-2018 PG Publishing Co. All rights reserved

MUST READ



NEWS

Hiding behind God: Three men sexually abused as boys by Catholic priest Anthony Cipolla still struggle with the horror



NEWS

One by one, they told their stories as their bishop sat listening



BUSINESS

Pitt planning to buy all power generated from planned hydroelectric plant

TRENDING

1



NEWS

Daughter of late publisher Richard Mellon Scaife dies

Fri, Nov 30, 2018, 9:33am Rich Lord and Andrew Goldstein

2



SPORTS

Ed Bouchette: Hines Ward deserves your Hall of Fame vote

Fri, Nov 30, 2018, 10:05am Ed Bouchette

3



BUSINESS

Pittsburgh Mills property owners could get hit with \$5.4 million bill



⌚ Fri, Nov 30, 2018, 7:00am 👤 Mark Belko



4

NEWS

Councilman Corey O'Connor's aunt killed in pedestrian accident in Squirrel Hill

⌚ Fri, Nov 30, 2018, 6:38am 👤 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



5

SPORTS

Joe Starkey: Stephon Tuitt has 'man crush' on trash-talking Philip Rivers

⌚ Fri, Nov 30, 2018, 6:00am 👤 Joe Starkey