

Community Partnership Connection



Cyber Security: Why It's Important to You

How much is your data worth?

You might not know, but chances are pretty good that cyber criminals do.



October marks the 9th annual **National Cyber Security Awareness Month** sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security.

More and more, Americans are embracing new and innovative technologies and spending more of their time online.

Our desire for computers, smart phones, tablets, Wi-Fi and other technology seems to have no limits. As a result, the environment has never been better for cyber criminals.

"The days of dramatic bank heists have been over for years. Cyber crimes are now the fastest growing crimes in America. As we become increasingly dependent on multiple technologies, our personal information is becoming more available to thieves who develop sophisticated software systems that steal your identity and create online fraud," said Darin Balaam, Captain of the Special Operations Division at the Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

At home, work and school, our growing dependence on technology, coupled with increasing cyber threats and risks to our privacy, demands greater security in our online world. Learn what you can do to keep you and your family cyber safe. Take a moment to review the thirty cyber security tips listed at www.washoesherriff.com/staying-safe.php. You can also receive daily tips and stay informed on all Washoe County Sheriff's Office issues via Twitter by following @washoesherriff.

Police Dogs Converge in Reno for the Western States K9 Trials

Washoe County went to the dogs this month...K9 dogs that is. Dozens of law enforcement and military K9 teams descended on Reno to compete on October 12th and 13th in the 2012 Western States Police Canine Association's End of Year Trials. While the Sheriff's Office was the official sponsor of the event, organizers say they couldn't do it without a lot of help from the community and their partners from the Nevada Highway Patrol and Sparks Police Department.

This exciting event featured K9 competition in narcotics odor detection of vehicles and buildings, agility courses, obedience tests, a search exercise, and a protection and apprehension phase.



Deputy Jim McNeill and K9 Jacob during competition (McNeill and K9 Jacob finished 1st in area search, 2nd overall in Patrol and 3rd in overall explosive)

Photo courtesy of Liz Stuchell



Deputy Corey Solferino and K9 Akim during the apprehension phase of the competition (Solferino and K9 Akim finished 2nd in Narcotic/Vehicle search and also in Patrol/Novice overall)

Photo courtesy of Bob Harmon

Prescription Drug Round-Up a Success



On September 29, 2012, the Sheriff's Office once again partnered with local and federal agencies to sponsor a prescription drug round up event for Washoe County.

Saturday's Round Up was a tremendous success. As a result of the operation, a total of 113,279 prescription pills were collected and logged, in addition to many prescription liquids, creams, and inhalers. These medications will now be safely destroyed so that they cannot end up in the hands of those who might abuse them.

This was the first time needles were accepted. Northern Nevada Hopes took in a total of 3810 sharps/points which weighed in at 32 pounds. They were turned over to the County Health Department for disposal.

K9 Akim Receives Ballistic Vest from Northern Nevada AKC Club



The northern Nevada AKC Club recently presented Deputy Corey Solferino with a generous donation of a K9 ballistic vest for K9 Akim in honor of the recent passing of K9 Kraft.

PLAYING IT SAFE ON HALLOWEEN

“Trick or Treat!”...the anthem shouted with delight by many children on Halloween night. It’s the time of year for costumes, sweets, tricks and treats. But ghosts, vampires and monsters aren’t the only things to be wary of this Halloween. Accidents and unfortunate mishaps increase dramatically on All Hallows’ Eve. To keep it fun and avoid potential hazards and dangers, follow the precautions below to keep children safe while out trick-or-treating.

Always trick or treat with an adult. Don’t allow a child to go outside alone.

Accompany children to the door of every house they approach.

Stay outside. Do not enter a home or apartment without adult supervision.

Children should not approach any vehicle, occupied or not.

Remain visible. Wear bright clothing or use reflective strips on costumes. Carry a glow stick or flashlight.

Obey all traffic and pedestrian regulations. Look both ways before crossing, walk on sidewalks, and obey traffic signals and stop signs. Always walk; never run across streets or lawns.

Trick or Treat at friendly homes. Children should be warned to never approach a house that is not well lit and does not have a porch light or outside light on.

Do not go onto properties that are marked “Keep Out,” “No Trespassing,” and “No Solicitors Allowed.”

Never eat any candy until an adult checks it. Dispose of anything that seems to have been tampered with, has been opened, or isn’t wrapped.

Children should immediately report to their parents and/or law enforcement if they see or experience anything suspicious. Instruct children to shout for help and make a scene if anyone tries to grab them or force them into involuntary situations.

A great alternative to trick or treating is for parents to attend community trick or treat events or organize at-home parties.



Free Halloween Candy X-Rays

Even though tainted Halloween candy scares have turned out to be more myth than fact, the Sheriff’s Office, in partnership with Olympic Security, will have court security officers on hand to X-Ray candy free of charge.

“We want Halloween to be fun and safe, and we’re happy to provide x-raying of the candy for those who want the peace of mind,” said Detention Bureau Captain Wayne Yarbrough.

Families can bring their bags of trick-or-treat candy to the courthouse anytime on Halloween, October 31st or November 1st from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the 75 Court Street entrance.

An adult should always inspect the candy before allowing a child to enjoy the sweet rewards of their trick-or-treating.

**Washoe County Sheriff's
Office-Community Relations**

911 E. Parr Boulevard
Reno Nevada 89512
P: 775.785.6228
F: 775.785.6244

E-mail:
sheriffcommunityrelations@washoecounty.us

Find us on the Web:
washoesheriff.com



*Dedicated Service in
Partnership with our
Community*



The **Christmas on the Corridor** event is right around the corner. We hope you will consider donating new items for families in need.

To make a donation, you can contact Brooke Howard at 785-4244 or you can send your donation to Alternatives to Incarceration at PO Box 11130, Reno NV 89520-0027.

Deputy Tim Dahlen Wins 2012 Trauma Intervention Program **Heroes with Heart Award!**



Deputy Tim Dahlen with TIP Executive Director, Gabrielle Totton

Deputy Dahlen was one of seven presented with this year's Heroes with Heart award recognizing the compassionate heroes outstanding among Washoe County's first responders and emergency personnel.

Detectives **Joe Digesti** and **Arick Dickson** were also among the finalists for this year's awards honoring the important impact that comes from the compassion shown by first responders and emergency personnel when working with victims in a crisis.

TIP of Northern Nevada is a non-profit organization where citizen volunteers respond 24/7 to traumatic incidents at the request of police, fire and hospital personnel to support those who are emotionally traumatized. TIP volunteers come from all walks of life and provide emotional and practical support to victims of traumatic events such as death, suicide attempts, fires and burglaries.



Detectives Joe Digesti and Arick Dickson

Photo's courtesy of Sgt. Tom Green



Follow the Sheriff's Office on TWITTER at:
<http://twitter.com/washoesheriff>