

Community Partnership Connection



If You Think NCIS is Cool, Come See How Forensic Science is Really Done!



If you enjoy television shows like NCIS, CSI, or other forensic programs, then you don't want to miss our Forensic Science Division's (FSD) Open House!

On April 24th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. you are invited to experience a unique glimpse into the world of forensic science where you will get a chance to see how a real lab works. Our FSD staff will show you how we develop latent prints, test for the presence of blood, get a DNA profile, determine whether a white powder is cocaine, and many other types of testing.

You will also have the opportunity to solve a crime. We will set up a mock crime scene where you can investigate related evidence found in various sections throughout the laboratory. Please join us for our:

Forensic Science Division Open House
Washoe County Sheriff's Office, 911 Parr Boulevard, Reno
April 24th from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

If you plan on attending in a group larger than 10 people please call 775-328-2800.

SO Partners with KNPB for the “Young Writers Workshops”



PBS Young Writers Contest is a national initiative designed to promote the advancement of children’s reading skills through hands-on, active learning.

A national contest sponsored by PBS KIDS and hosted locally by KNPB Public Broadcasting gives students in grades kindergarten through third the opportunity to write and illustrate their own story.

“Research shows that creative writing enhances and improves a child’s literacy development” said Undersheriff Tim Kuzanek. “Through this contest, the Sheriff’s Office and KNPB are teaming up to help prepare children for success in school.”

Each week our Sheriff’s Office Deputies spend an hour reading to children and then help them come up with ideas for their own special and unique stories. To learn more about the Young Writers Contest, go to www.knpb.org.



Late Winter Hiking Tips

Dress like an onion. Be sure to dress in layers. Since temperatures vary from the trailhead to the summit, a variety of insulating clothing will help you regulate your body temperature.

Start small and start early. Be prepared for the distance and difficulty of the trail. The sun sets earlier in winter months so plan to be off the trail before dark. Keep in mind an injury or accident could happen any time due to terrain. Have a plan if you do get injured.

Bring safety gear. Aside from basic hiking gear, be sure to include a few basic items such as cell phone, GPS/compass, pocket knife or mini tool, first aid kit, & poncho/foil blanket.

Check the weather. Look at precipitation, wind speed, avalanche reports and daylight hours.

Learn to use crampons. If the trail is icy, crampons can make the difference in preventing injury. If you are new to crampons, try them on easier trails first.

Take an experienced friend. Hiking with friends is always the way to go, especially in winter. Not only is it more fun, but also safer to be with a group.

Let someone know where you are. Let a friend or family member know specific and accurate trail information of where you are as well as when you are expected to return.

Water, water, water. It is essential to bring plenty of water when hiking in the winter, as dehydration is a common problem.

Invest in good gear. There are some basics every hiker should have: crampons or snowshoes, waterproof /resistant pants and jacket, knee-high gaiters, waterproof/resistant boots, a lightweight backpack, and sunglasses.

Be prepared to turn around. Mountaineer Ed Viesturs once said “getting to the top is optional, getting down is mandatory.” Don’t hesitate to turn around if you run into conditions that look dangerous.

Don’t hesitate to call SAR if in trouble. If you get lost, call 911 for Search and Rescue – Washoe Sheriff’s SAR is a free service we provide to the public. Your safe return home is our priority!

Treat yourself to a great meal. Lastly, be sure to reward yourself when you come off the trails for a job well-done!

RAS Microchip Campaign Extended!



A hiker spotted them, Regional Animal Services rescued them, but it was their microchips that got them home.

Two young German Shepherds, five-month-old “Lulu” and six-month-old “Jack Jack” were located in the wilderness area north of Peavine Mountain and west of Cold Springs.

It was difficult enough trying to rescue the dogs from such a remote area, but Animal Control Officers also faced the dilemma of trying to find the home of two dogs picked up in the middle of nowhere.

Fortunately, both dogs have microchips and all it took was a few phone calls. The dogs are part of the Huet family who live on a ranch about 10 miles from where the dogs were spotted. Joyce Huet says the dogs must have gotten out sometime in the morning, after she and her husband had left for work, and that she was amazed by the amount of distance they covered in such a short time. “Just the thought of losing ‘Lulu’ and ‘Jack Jack’ is devastating,” she said. “Without those microchips, we might not have seen them again. As it is, the whole family is loving having our dogs back home.”

“Lulu” and “Jack Jack” disappeared on February 11th in the morning and were back with their family by that night, the same day that Washoe County Regional Animal Services announced that they were extending their free pet microchipping campaign for an additional two years.

Now Washoe County pet owners may microchip their pets for free at Animal Services through January of 2016.

“We want to continue to do everything we can to help reunite lost pets with their families as quickly as possible,” Regional Animal Services Director Barry Brode said.

“Experience proves time and again that microchips are the most effective and efficient means for getting pets home.”

Beware: Work at Home Scams

Everyone’s seen them—seductive work-at-home opportunities hyped in flyers, in newspaper classifieds, in your e-mail, and all over the web, promising you hundreds or thousands of dollars a week for typing, stuffing envelopes, processing medical billing, etc. And it’s just a phone call or mouse click away...

Might be tempting during these uncertain economic times, but beware of *any* offers that promise easy money for minimum effort—many are scams that fill the coffers of criminals.

Fbi.gov warns you of some of these common work-at-home scams:

Advance-fee: Starting a home-based business is easy! Just invest a few hundred dollars in inventory, set-up, and training materials, they say. Of course, if and when the materials do come, they are totally worthless...and you’re stuck with the bill.

Counterfeit check-facilitated "mystery shopper:" You’re sent a hefty check and asked to deposit it into your bank account, then withdraw funds to shop and check out the service of local stores and wire transfer companies. You keep a small amount of the money for your “work,” but then, as instructed, mail or wire the rest to your “employer.” Sound good? One problem: the initial check was phony, and by the time your bank notifies you, your money is long gone and you’re on the hook for the counterfeit check.

Pyramid schemes: You’re hired as a “distributor” and shell out big bucks for promotional materials and product inventories with little value (like get-rich quick pamphlets). You’re promised money for recruiting more distributors, so you talk friends and family into participating. The scheme grows exponentially but then falls apart—the only ones who make a profit are the criminals who started it.

Unknowing involvement in criminal activity: Criminals—often located overseas—sometimes use unwitting victims to advance their operations, steal and launder money, and maintain anonymity. For example, they may “hire” you as a U.S.-based agent to receive and re-ship checks, merchandise, and solicitations to other potential victims...without you realizing it’s all a ruse that leaves no trail back to the crooks.

Source: www.fbi.gov

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**Dedicated Service in
Partnership with our
Community**

Detective Arick Dickson Receives Rotary LE Award!

Detective Arick Dickson was recently recognized as the Law Enforcement Professional of the Month at the Rotary Club of Reno. He was hailed for his role investigating the suspect in a case involving multiple murders in Washoe and Lyon Counties.



Reno Rotary President Carl Fuetsch (far right) presents Detective Arick Dickson (far left) with the Law Enforcement Professional of the Month certificate. Also pictured are District Attorney Dick Gammick (second from left) and Undersheriff Tim Kuzanek (second from right).



Washoe County Residents can now report crime from their iPhone or Android devices by installing the new WCSO app available for free from the Apple Store or Google Playstore.

Sheriff's SMART Volunteer is "Someone to Know"!



Our own Sheriff's Office SMART volunteer, Rod Stahl, was recently featured in a story by Kristen Remington on KTVN in their special "Someone to Know" segment. Kristen featured Rod with Lt. Tom Green who talked about our Child ID program and its importance to the community. To see the full story, go to www.KTVN.com