

Community Partnership Connection



Volunteers Reach New Depth to Bring Comfort to Grieving Family

Washoe County Search and Rescue volunteers pushed the limits on Sunday, January 24th when they conducted a deep water dive that had never been attempted in the history of the unit in order to help bring comfort and closure to a grieving family. Over 40 members from the HASTY team and the Specialized Vehicle Unit (SVU) participated in a mission. The deep water dive reached a depth of 97 feet into the water of Pyramid Lake. After taking into consideration the elevation at which the dive occurred, the total depth of this dive was 117 feet. The mission took nearly ten hours and was successfully completed without any issues. This operation is a testament to the professionalism, training and dedication of the men and women who volunteer for Washoe County Search and Rescue, an invaluable asset to the citizens of Washoe County responding at a moment's notice and risking life and limb to assist others in distress.



Washoe County Sheriff's Office is taking the Plunge for Special Olympics!

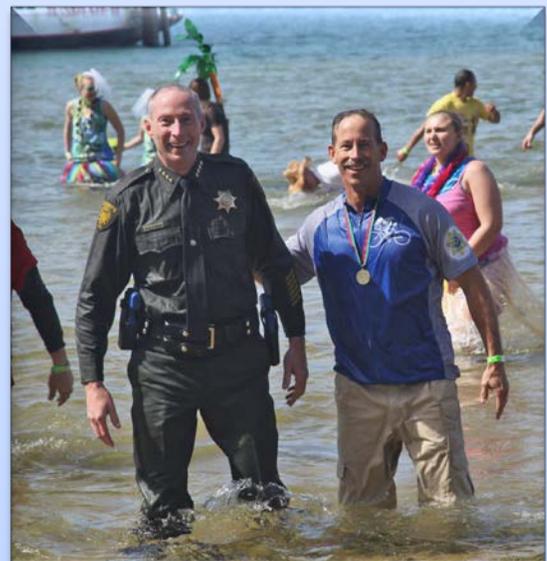
For the second year in a row Sheriff's Office staff is participating in the Special Olympics of Northern Nevada Polar Plunge!

Polar Plunge is a unique opportunity for individuals, organizations, schools, etc. to support Special Olympics athletes by jumping into icy cold waters of Lake Tahoe! All funds raised benefit the more than 19,960 Special Olympics athletes in Northern California & Nevada.

Why is our staff jumping into the icy waters of Zephyr Cove in full uniform/clothing!? We do it to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics; the official charity of choice for the Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs Association (representing law enforcement in Nevada).

Sheriff Allen has been involved in the Special Olympics in Nevada for over 12 years and is currently the President of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for 2016. Special Olympics give visibility to people with intellectual disabilities, who often face daunting struggles to achieve acceptance. Special Olympics make invaluable contributions to the lives of athletes that extend well beyond sports, providing a positive cycle of inclusion, understanding, and respect.

We invite you to create a team, support our team "The WCSO Subzero Heroes!," or come on out to the event held March 19th and cheer us on! For more information click [HERE](#). To support our team click [HERE](#).



"Polar Plunge 2016" benefiting Special Olympics
Saturday, March 19th at 9:00 a.m.
Zephyr Cover Resort
Contact: info@sonc.org

eBay Scams: 23 Safeguards

The Sheriff's Office has recently had reports of eBay Scams. Here are a few tips to reduce your chance of getting scammed courtesy of Scambusters.org:

Do:

- Keep a close eye on your "My eBay" page to make sure no one is using your account to trade.
- Always log in to both eBay and PayPal manually. Don't use the auto sign-on. Use different passwords for your eBay and PayPal accounts and change them very regularly.
- Seek further information and pictures of an item. The more costly, the more determined you should be to verify the details and the more you should want to know about a buyer or seller. You can actually get full contact details, including address and phone number, of someone you're dealing with before paying for or sending an item.
- Read the fine print. Always check a seller's return and refund policy and read every word of the article description and other details.
- Consider using a PayPal security key, which you can buy for \$5 and which generates a random temporary security code that has to be used for logging on to your eBay or PayPal accounts.
- Check out prices (both on and off eBay) for similar items you are buying or selling, to get a clear idea of what might be a reasonable sum.
- Use a shipment tracking method when sending items of value. If you're a buyer, insist the seller uses such a method, even if you have to pay for it.
- Keep copies of all correspondence relating to a sale along with photos of an item before you ship it.
- If you're a seller, use some form of identifier that can only be removed once the buyer accepts the item. Your returns policy can state you will only accept items back with this identifier intact. This prevents fraudulent returns of lesser value items.

Now, for the things you should make sure you DON'T do...

- Don't pay by instant cash, cash transfers or money wires like Western Union or MoneyGram. They can't be tracked and traced. Even money orders and checks are not safe. For preference, use credit cards or PayPal, which offer fraud protection (although be sure you completely understand PayPal's rules before you use this service).
- Don't reply to or click on links in emails that seem to come from eBay, including Second Chance Offers that sometimes arrive after you've been outbid. Instead, sign on to your account. If it's a genuine communication, it will be listed in "My eBay."
- Don't click on links that sellers provide in their listings. Instead, if the link supposedly offers more information or a download, do your own online search instead. (eBay's own links, such as those for more pictures or shipping methods, are usually OK.)
- Don't buy collectible items about which you're not already an expert. You must be able to distinguish between fake and genuine. The jeweler Tiffany once claimed that almost three-fourths of all items bearing its name sold on eBay were fakes. Here's more info on antique and collectible scams.
- Don't agree to deal with a buyer or seller outside of the eBay trading environment. You're at risk, without any protection.
- Don't accept an overpayment for an item, in which you're asked to remit the difference to anyone.

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

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*Dedicated Service in
Partnership with our
Community*

This month, WCSO executive staff participated in the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation's "Go for the Gold" Radiothon to support local children fighting cancer.

Special thanks to Chief Deputy Susan Schilling and long-time NNCCF Advocate PIO Jeff McCaskill who participated in their annual *Ferris Wheel Challenge*. Participants ride the wheel until they raise their funding goal.

The twist? Donors can choose to either donate towards getting someone *off* the wheel or to keeping them *on* the ride longer. Thankfully, we had a lot of community support!



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