



Powderhorn News

The monthly newsletter for the residents of Powderhorn

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Preventing Identity Theft in 2010

Identity theft is a fast-growing crime that changes quickly. Investigators still see cases involving “dumpster diving,” and still recommend shredding sensitive documents. But criminals have added new tactics – some sophisticated and some unbelievably simple.

Here are some criminal tactics you may remember, and some you may not have seen.

Texts, e-mails and calls from credit unions, banks, etc.

In recent months, many local residents have received text messages on their cell phones reportedly from their credit unions saying something like, “Your account has been suspended.” The texts then ask the recipient to take action: texting, calling or going online to provide their personal account information.

A similar tactic involves e-mails “from” banks or credit unions, using the bank’s logo and looking very official. In another version, the scammer actually places a call to the victim, identifies himself as a bank representative, and then asks the victim to verify personal or financial information.

Do not fall prey to these scams. Your bank will not request personal information from you, even for “verification.” Delete the text messages and e-mails and do not respond. If you’re unsure, call your bank directly using the number that you already have.

“Grandma, I need money”

This incredibly simple and mean-spirited scam involves just a phone and Western Union. The criminal will target a senior citizen and call her. When the victim answers, the criminal says, “Grandma?” The victim then usually says, “David?” providing the name of her grandchild to the criminal. He affirms that he’s David, and then says he needs her to

wire money to him because of a DUI. He pleads with her not to tell anyone. If she asks why he sounds different, he may say that he has a cold.

Jefferson County has seen several seniors fall victim to this scam. If you get any kind of call like this, hang up and call your grandchild directly on the number that you have, or call another relative to check the facts.

Job scam

In this scam, victims find out about work-from-home jobs on websites like Craigslist, or via incoming e-mail from senders unknown to them. They sign on to “work from home” and then are instructed to cash fraudulent checks or send money to various places.

Jury duty scam

In this scam, victims receive a phone call from someone telling them they failed to appear for jury duty and now there is a warrant out for their arrest. The caller then asks the victim to verify his name, date of birth, and other personal information. The caller will also ask for the victim’s social security number and sometimes even for credit card numbers. The information is then used to commit identity theft.

Online purchases

Scammers who make fraudulent online purchases using your account information often make them in small amounts so you won’t notice. Over time, they add up to big bucks. Check your online account purchases, your bank statements and your credit card statements regularly, and look for purchases you don’t recognize.

Reporting a crime

To report identity theft, call our non-emergency number: **303-277-0211**. If the Sheriff’s Office is not the proper authority to investigate this crime, we will give the

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Swimsuit & Accessory Sale: November 20-22

Find great deals on swimwear and accessories for the entire family on November 20-22 at Foothills Park and Recreation District’s Ridge Recreation Center, 6613 S. Ward Street. Hours of sale: Friday/Saturday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. For more information, call **303-409-2333** or for directions visit www.ifoohills.org.

\$3 Family Fun on Thanksgiving

Foothills Park & Recreation District’s Ridge Recreation Center will be open on Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 26. Burn some calories and let the kids burn some energy before the big meal! A perfect way to have fun with your family and out-of-town guests. Entry fee for everyone on Thanksgiving is only \$3 to use the cardio equipment, gymnasium, swimming pools, racquetball and indoor track. Facility and lap swim hours 5:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.; open swim in the leisure pool and diving boards 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. www.ifoohills.org; **303-409-2333**.

B’nai Chaim Services

B’nai Chaim, a Reform Jewish Congregation serving southwest metro Denver, will conduct Shabbat Services on November 6 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. A Tot Shabbat Service will be held on November 13 at 6:15 p.m. All services will be held at Congregation B’nai Chaim, 4716 South Coors Lane. An Oneg Shabbat will follow all services. All are welcome. Call **303-697-2668** or visit our website at www.bnaichaim.org for more information.

“Dedicate yourself to the good you deserve and desire for yourself. Give yourself peace of mind. You deserve to be happy.

You deserve delight.”

— Mark Victor Hansen



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Information: 303-409-2444
www.ifoohills.org



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- Recreation

Call us to ask how to get added to one of the categories above!
303-979-7499

Visit our website for advertising information, ad rates, a map of the HOA newsletters we publish and details about our graphic design services.
www.ColoradoLasertype.com

Preventing Identity Theft, *continued from front page*
information to the appropriate law enforcement agency, such as the FBI or U.S. Secret Service.

Top three tips from our investigators:

- **Be proactive with your accounts.** Check your various bank and credit card accounts regularly for fraudulent transactions. Request your free credit report annually. It only takes a day for your credit to be ruined, so take the time to stay on top of your account activity and contact your bank about any unusual activity right away.

- **Never answer any inquiries that you didn't initiate.** Your banks and lenders will not contact you via phone, e-mail or text asking you for personal information. If you didn't initiate the contact, don't provide any info.

- **Verify everything before you take action.** Criminals are crafty. Some pose as your bank; others are so brazen as to pose as your grandson. Before sending any money or information anywhere, call the number you have on record to verify the recipient.
— Sheriff Ted Mink



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Foothills' Holiday Pottery Sales

Mark your calendars for Foothills Park & Recreation District's Pottery Sales this holiday season. Foothills will put on two sales this year, so don't miss out on unique, one-of-a-kind artwork perfect for presents and hostess gifts. For more information, call **303-409-2612**.

November 27-28 at the Foothills' storefront at Southwest Plaza Mall (near the customer service center). Hours to be announced.

December 4-5 at Foothills' Ridge Recreation Center. Hours: Fri. 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Sat. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are \$2.80/line. Call Colorado Lasertype at 303-979-7499 to place an ad. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th.

LARAMIDE STONE & TILE. Porcelain, ceramic, natural stone. Todd **720-984-5189**

CONCRETE REPAIRS: Fix small concrete repairs to avoid costly replacement: Ideal Restoration/Sean **720-422-4236**

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SPRINKLER BLOW OUT. I have parts to repair broken back flows & get the system winterized. Call **Victor @ 303-995-5788**, a Leewood resident & off duty Firefighter.

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Carpet, hardwood, slate, tile- Installation, restretch & repairs. Bill at 303-794-1001

KENOSHA GLASS Window repair, table tops, mirrors, shower doors. 303-972-7880

Top Knotch Painting & Drywall-int./ext., Tom Martino approved, member of the BBB, 5% discount for Littleton residents **303-523-2941.**

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: Columbine High School, 6201 S. Pierce St., Littleton. Saturday, November 14th, 10am-4pm. Admission \$1 (5 & under free).

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATT/BOX SET. Brand new in plastic. Retail \$529, asking \$265. Also, NEW KING SIZE pillowtop set. Retail \$699, asking \$385. **303-742-4860.**

Highlands Pride Painting- 303-738-9203

Looking for **Great Holiday Gift Ideas? Partylite Candles & accessories.** Contact Jan. www.partylite.biz/janderby or **303-979-3880.** Online ordering now available.

Aminals Pet Sitting Service: Pet sitting (in your home). Bonded & ins. Refs. avail. Call **Nancy at 303-335-6237**

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Drive With Care Wherever You're Going

Whether you're just going to the store or driving cross-country, safety behind the wheel is paramount. Avoid becoming a statistic by following these safe driving tips:

- **Stop signs.** To ensure you come to a full stop and avoid an accident (or a ticket), spell the word S-T-O-P to yourself and feel the car rock backward before stepping on the gas again. Remember to look left, right and straight ahead before proceeding.
- **Stopping time.** Always make sure you've got enough time to stop your car if the vehicle ahead of you slams on the brakes unexpectedly. To be safe, start counting when the car in front passes a stationary object. If you pass the object before reaching a count of four, you're too close. Slow down. At night, or when the weather is hazardous, increase the count to give yourself enough room.
- **Parked cars.** In the city, be careful when driving past a line of parked cars. Stay toward the center of the road in case someone opens a door without warning.

- **Armrests.** Don't use the armrest while driving. Your arms need to be free and ready to turn the wheel in case of an emergency.
- **Lights.** Check regularly to make sure they're clean and clear so oncoming drivers and pedestrians can see you in low visibility. If your car has a center-mounted brake light in the rear window, be sure that's clear when wiping off snow, ice, or mud. Switch your headlights on any time visibility may be even slightly impaired.
- **Steering wheel.** Keep your hands at the 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock positions while driving, or the 9 and 3 positions. This gives you maximum control over your steering.

Teen Services

To add your teen's name, please call **Colorado Lasertype at 303-979-7499** and leave the following information: the **neighborhood you live in**, your age, phone number and the categories you would like included. Categories: **(B)** Baby-sitting * Red Cross Cert. for CPR **(L)** Lawn care **(S)** Snow removal **(P)** Pet & House sitting. No recommendation or endorsement of any of the names on this list is implied or stated by the homeowners association board or Colorado Lasertype.

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Eat A Healthful Snack – A Simple Idea, But What?

You're hungry. What should you eat? If you're trying to avoid junk food and excess calories, consider these healthy snack options:

- Olives. A snack of five olives has just 45 calories.
- Hummus and carrots. Four ounces of hummus and three carrot sticks contain only 80 calories.
- Pineapples and pistachios. Mix 1/2-cup of dried pineapple slices with about 25 pistachio nuts. Fruits and nuts are a good source of antioxidants. Also try peanuts and raisins or almonds and dried apricots.
- Cottage cheese and apples. Top a sliced apple with about 1/2-cup of low-fat cottage cheese. Benefits: calcium, protein and fiber.
- Mini-pizza. Slice a whole-wheat pita in half. Spread a little tomato sauce, then sprinkle some cheese and vegetables on top. Heat in microwave or toaster oven until cheese melts.

- Rice cakes. These can be eaten by themselves or with various low-fat toppings. Look for rice cakes made from whole-grain brown rice.
- Water. A tall glass of water is terrific for you. It revitalizes your body while assuaging hunger pangs. And it's caffeine and calorie-free.

National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week: November 15-21

Sponsored by the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness

Schools, communities and cities participate in a national campaign to raise awareness of hunger and homelessness. Go to www.nationalhomeless.org/projects/awareness/awareness.html for details.

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If you have anything to contribute or any questions, please let us know.

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