From the desk of Officer Don Sikkema, Senior Liaison, Arvada Police Department

Senior Siren

January—February, 2011

Volume 3, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- The Arvada Police Dept. created the Senior Liaison Officer position to address the needs of our city's senior population.
- Most crimes against seniors involve financial exploitation — that include frauds, scams, and cons.
- The Lockbox Program provides a house key for emergency medical responders in the event the senior cannot get to the door.

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Exciting Events for the New Year

Another year has flown by and we shared some very interesting times together. We cannot look back for long though. We have to keep pressing on, fighting the good fight. The scammers and criminals are not going to take a break and neither are we. Let's keep meeting, teaching, learning and sharing with everyone we can to make Arvada one of the safest places to live in the nation. Here are some teasers for upcoming events this year:

- A "Power Against Fraud" Seminar most likely to be held in late Spring.
- A "Senior Law Day" for Jefferson County is in the planning stages. Looking at early June.
- A "Consumer Safety Awareness Day." Late Summer / early Fall.
- Monthly TRIAD meetings. 4th Tuesday of every month.

These are just a few of the many events you can attend to learn more about senior safety and current scams. Of course we will continue to hold our "Office Hours" at numerous locations around Arvada each week. Call Officer Don Sikkema at 720-898-6724 to find out where you can join us for one of these informative meetings.

Don Sikkema

Some of the Services we provide for you at the Arvada Police Department:

- **Colorado Life Trak program**—A safe return program for at-risk persons who may wander from home or school. Free.
- **Lock Box program** for senior citizens providing a house key for use by rescue personnel. Free.
- **Solicitor Verification program**—A "safety net" for homeowners who are solicited by door-to-door contractors, handymen, repair persons, landscapers and others knocking at the door. Free.
- **Arvada Rides—Alternatives to Driving**. Information on transportation options around the metro area.
- **Rx Drugs—Not yours. Not Safe**.—Pill drop-off events and information for keeping your prescription drugs safe as well as the proper disposal of medications.
- **Information and videos** for families living with Alzheimer's patients.
- **Security Survey** for your home. Free.
- **Conflict Resolution** for disputes involving senior citizens.
- **Scam presentations** for senior groups in Arvada. Free.
- **Resource Information** for crime victims.
- **Support Services Referrals** for seniors with a variety of different needs.
- **Office Hours—**Weekly meetings at various locations across Arvada keeping seniors up-to-date on the latest scams.
- **Scam Hotline**—Recorded message so anyone can call 24 hours a day / seven days a week for scam warnings.
- **TRIAD community meetings**—An organization built on a cooperative relationship between Senior Community Members, the District Attorney, Law Enforcement and Senior Service Providers all concerned about the safety and security of seniors living in Jefferson & Gilpin Counties.
- more… Call Officer Sikkema anytime for additional information.

Lawyers get robbed

Two lawyers are in a bank, when suddenly, armed robbers burst in. While several of the robbers take the money from the tellers, others line the customers, including the lawyers, up against a wall and proceed to take their wallets, watches, etc. While this is going on lawyer number one jams something into lawyer number two's hand. Without looking down, lawyer number two whispers, "What is this?" to which lawyer number one replies, "It's the $50 I owe you."

Upcoming Events -- An Invitation to TRIAD!

Meetings are held at the Jefferson County District Attorney's Conference Room, 500 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden

What happens when I call 911 for an Ambulance

Tuesday, January 25, 1:30 pm

Sometimes in urgent situations people hesitate to call 9-1-1. Learn from Wheat Ridge 9-1-1 dispatcher, Chris Barimoni, what happens when you call and what information they will ask you to provide. Then Robert Putfark from PrideMark Paramedics will talk about what happens when they arrive at the scene. Questions such as "when should I call," "is there a cost," and "can I choose not to be transported" will be addressed.

Is your money safe?

Tuesday, February 22, 1:30 pm

Nora Roth from the Colorado State Bank and Trust will talk about estates and trusts, the differences and when and if it is wise to make changes in your accounts. Make sure what you do with your money benefits you and not just your financial institute. She will also talk about fraud as it pertains to your bank.

Everyone is invited! Bring a Friend!

Share this invitation with your community.

TRIAD is an organization built on a cooperative relationship between **Senior Community Members,** the **District Attorney, Law Enforcement** and **Senior Service Providers** all concerned about the safety and security of seniors living in Jefferson & Gilpin Counties.

Come to a TRIAD meeting!

It is a chance to learn and share valuable crime fighting information!

Scam of the Month

From the desk of Officer Don Sikkema, Senior Liaison, Arvada Police Department

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Phone: 720-898-6724
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Financial Account Updates and Alerts

Most of the attention in this category goes to "phishing" and "pharming" scams. These involve e-mails claiming to be from your bank, credit-card company, mortgage holder or Internet provider, asking you to "update your account information."

Phishing Follies

The scam: These e-mails include an attachment that directs you to an authentic-looking website that asks for you account numbers, passwords or Social Security number. By obliging, you provide these scammers with all the information they need to access your financial accounts—the first move in identity theft. You may even download software that disables your firewall protection and provides phishers and pharmers access to personal information for other accounts you maintain online.

Rip-off tip-off: Spotting a phishing website used to be straightforward. You simply scanned its URL to see if it lacked the "https" (indicating a secure website) before the "www." Or you looked to see if its address was misspelled ("www.wellfargo.com" instead of "www.wellsfargo.com," for example) or if its Web pages themselves contained misspellings and grammatical errors. Nowadays such detection is not so easy. Sophisticated scammers can replicate an authentic website down to its last detail, including a bona fide Web address. Although you may occasionally receive informational e-mails about new products and services from legitimate banks, loan holders and credit-card companies, these companies never ask for online "updates" or "verification" of passwords, account numbers or Social Security numbers.

Copied from the book, "Scam Proof Your Life" by Sid Kirchheimer.

If you ever question or wonder about an e-mail you received, please call Officer Sikkema at 720-898-6724 or the Scam Hotline at 720-898-6739.

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Speaking engagements concerning seniors and scams for your community organization, church, HOA meeting or club are FREE! Officer Sikkema will meet with your group and share the latest scams and criminal schemes to keep you ahead of the game. Call Don at 720-898-6724 to schedule your scam presentation today. The earlier you call the better chance you will have of getting the date and time you prefer.