

Youngtown Village Reporter

May 2024
youngtownaz.org

In the *Heart* of the Northwest Valley

Our Easter Event was an Eggcellent Time!



If you missed out on this year's Easter Egg Hunt, we hope that you will join us next year!

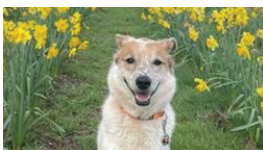
The Town hosts many events throughout the year to bring the community together! Each year at Uribe Park, we host an easter egg hunt! This year our Youngtown children and their families came out and hunted for 4,000 Easter eggs! Each child received a bag full of Easter fun – which included bunny ears, coloring books, crayons, etc.! The children also had their picture taken with the Easter bunny! There was a face painter and a balloon maker who made all sorts of fun balloon figures at the request of each child! It was a great day for

all to enjoy! A special thank you to our “home-town” law enforcement (MCSO), Deputy Tinoco and their cadets, who helped with set up and take down for the event, as well as helping some of our younger children hunt for their eggs! A special shout out to the Easter Bunny for making the day so special to all of our children! Thank you to my staff for all of their hard work and the many hours of preparation in bringing this special event to our residents!

We hope you will join us in October for our annual G.A.I.N. (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) Trunk or Treat event and in December for our Winter Miracle event!



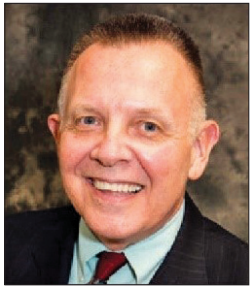
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Neighborhood Watch
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From the Mayor... Youngtown, Bucolic But Well-Run

This is a reprint of an article which ran in June, 2016.

The mission of government should be the enhancement of quality of life through the adoption of well thought out, cogent policies designed and implemented to facilitate a robust economy and provide what I call 'bread and butter' services like public safety, streets, parks and libraries.

Youngtown is debt free with a healthy rainy-day fund and has managed to create a structural surplus in its budget for the foreseeable future. Youngtown's infrastructure is modern and well main-

tained and it is one of the safest communities in the valley—secured and protected by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) and Sun City Fire and Medical Department (SCFMD). Most importantly, all this has been accomplished without increasing the tax burden on the Town's residents. In Youngtown, at every level of governance, Council and staff routinely inject a healthy dose of common sense into the process of adopting and discharging policy.

When I first took office as your Mayor several years ago, I quickly realized that my most important function, as

mayor, was to build and maintain a solid working consensus on the Town Council. While the Council's votes are not always unanimous, all seven of us are on the same general path toward building the best future for Youngtown; we work hard to avoid getting 'lost in the weeds'. We have been blessed, these past several years, with a Council and staff working together to consistently function at a very high level. This has allowed us to be highly productive and innovative in the accomplishment of our mission to enhance quality of life. You don't have to look far, beyond the borders of Young-

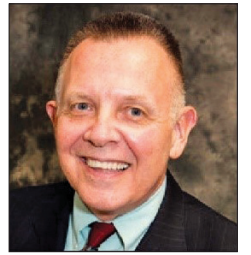
town, to appreciate how rare this is.

Youngtown consistently 'punches above its weight class' through its leadership involvement in regional organizations like the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC), WESTMARC, Leadership West and the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC).

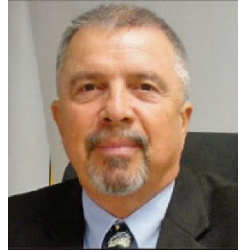
This regional involvement is critical to the future of the Town and the West Valley. Youngtown is very well located to take advantage of the wave of economic development coming our way. We sit halfway between Loop 101 and

the 303; a rejuvenated Grand Avenue borders us on the north and Olive Avenue traverses us on the south. Our residents can be virtually anywhere in the Valley in 45 minutes or less.

Our location, in the North West Valley, allows us to enjoy the bucolic lifestyle of living in a well-run small town while having easy access to all the amenities of a world-class city. Let's make sure that our Mayor, Council and staff continue to cooperate and collaborate in order to assure the best possible future for Youngtown and its residents.



Michael LaVault
Mayor



Charles Vickers
Vice Mayor



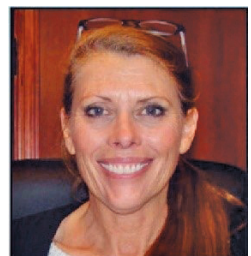
Margaret Chittenden
Councilmember



Karen Haney Duncan
Councilmember



Michael Francis
Councilmember



Susan Hout
Councilmember



Jim Starke
Councilmember



TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN

12030 North Clubhouse Square, Youngtown, AZ 85363

Mayor and Council: 623-933-8286 • Town Administration: 623-933-8286

Building Inspector: 623-933-8286 • Library: 623-974-3401 • Municipal Court: 623-972-8226

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Non-emergency: 602-876-1011 • Emergency: 9-1-1

Town Administrative Office hours Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. • www.youngtownaz.org

Lithium-Ion Battery Fires



By: **Kenny Kovak**
Fire Marshal
Sun City Fire District



In recent years, the increase of lithium-ion batteries in our everyday devices has brought about numerous technological advancements, from portable electronics to electric vehicles. However, alongside these innovations comes the sobering reality of lithium-ion battery fires, which have garnered significant attention due to their potential for causing property damage, injuries, and even fatalities.

Understanding the Risks: Lithium-ion batteries are known for their high energy density and rechargeable capabilities, making them indispensable in powering our modern world. However, they are not without risks. When damaged, overheated, or overcharged, these

batteries can undergo a process known as thermal runaway, leading to

rapid and uncontrollable heating, release of flammable gases, and

ultimately, fire.

Incidents and Consequences: Instances

of lithium-ion battery fires have been reported in various settings, including smartphones, laptops, e-cigarettes, electric vehicles, and even e-bikes. E-bikes, with their growing popularity, have also experienced incidents of battery fires. These fires can result in significant property damage and pose serious threats to human safety. In some cases, they have even led to injuries and fatalities, urging the need for effective preventive measures and emergency response protocols.

Public Awareness and Education: Educating the public about the proper use, storage, and disposal of lithium-ion batteries is crucial in preventing accidents. This includes avoiding physical damage to batteries, avoiding exposure to extreme temperatures, and using only approved charging devices. Furthermore, prompt reporting of any signs of battery malfunction or overheating is essential in preventing potential disasters.

Looking Ahead: As our reliance on lithi-

um-ion batteries continues to grow, so too must our vigilance in addressing the associated risks. While advancements in technology offer immense benefits, they also require us to remain proactive in identifying and addressing potential hazards. By fostering collaboration among industry stakeholders, policymakers, and the public, we can work towards a safer future where the benefits of lithium-ion batteries are maximized, and the risks are minimized.

While lithium-ion battery fires remain a concern across various devices, including e-bikes, they are not overwhelming. Through continued innovation, regulation, and public awareness, we can mitigate the risks associated with these powerful energy sources and ensure a safer and more sustainable technological environment for generations to come. Sun City Fire and Medical is continuously being educated in all aspects of Lithium-Ion Batteries.



NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Email your article to
Jeanne Blackman:
jblackman@youngtownaz.org

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Youngtown Public Library

May 2024

Youngtown Public Library is proud to announce we are participating in the MAX book sharing service. MAX is a countywide book sharing service between public libraries throughout Maricopa County. If Youngtown Public Library does not have the book you are looking for, you can search MAX to see if it is available from one of our partner libraries. If the book is available, the partner library will send it directly to your Youngtown Library! You simply pick it up and return it to your local library! Books are checked out for 21 days with no renewals. Browse the entire MAX catalog at mcl-d-enc.iii.com/ or come into the library. We are happy to help you find a book and answer your questions.

MAY IMPORTANT DATES

- May 1 Storytime with Miss Mary at 10:30 a.m.
- May 1 Adventure Begins at Your Library Summer Reading Program registration begins
- May 7 Rather Be Reading Book Club at 10:00 a.m.
- May 8 Storytime with Miss Mary at 10:00 a.m.
- May 9 Friends of the Youngtown Public Library meeting at 9 a.m.
- May 14 Storytime with Miss Mary at the Peoria Family Resource Center
- May 15 MCSO Storytime with Miss Mary at 10:30 a.m.
- May 22 Storytime with Miss Mary at 10:30 a.m.
- May 27 Memorial Day holiday – Library Closed
- May 28 Cards, Games, & More @ the Library at 1:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MCSO STORYTIME WITH MISS MARY: Storytime with Miss Mary is celebrating National Police Week

on Wednesday, May 15 at 10:30 a.m. with our special guests, the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office!

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM: Registration for the Adventure Begins at Your Library Summer Reading Program opens on May 1. The program runs from June 1 – August 1 and is open to all ages. Read 20 minutes a day and earn fantastic prizes! Register at www.maricopacountyreads.org.

CARDS, GAMES, & MORE @ THE LIBRARY: Love to play games and cards? Join other game enthusiasts at our newest program for adults. Cards, Games, & More @ the Library meets the 4th Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. to play Skip-Bo, Phase 10, Bingo, Yahtzee and more! This project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

STORYTIME WITH MISS MARY: Storytime with Miss Mary is every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Join us for an all-ages storytime filled with books, songs, and fun! This project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

RATHER BE READING BOOK CLUB: The Rather Be Reading Book Club will meet on Tuesday, May 7 at 10 a.m. We are reading any Tony or Anne Hillerman book. For more information contact Mary Vass,

The Youngtown Public Library offers many services, including:

- **FREE Book, DVD, Chromebook, and Kits checkout (with a Youngtown Library card)**
- **FREE WI-FI**
- **FREE use of 6 Public Computers**
- **FREE Tax Forms**
- **FREE faxes (with a Youngtown Library card) – 10-page limit**
- **Printing/Copies \$.15 each**

Library Manager at 623-974-3401.

LOCATION

The Youngtown Library and the Youngtown Historical Museum are located in Town Square, between Alabama and Youngtown Avenues, just west of 112th Avenue. For additional information about the Library or the history of Youngtown, call 623-974-3401 and speak with Mary Vass, Library/Museum Manager.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday – Sunday: Closed



Clubs and Organizations

AARP Board

MEET: 3rd Tuesday of the month 4:30 p.m.
Charles Janson – 623-826-3059

AARP CHAPTER 1

MEET: 1st Friday of the month 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Charles Janson – 623-826-3059

AGUA FRIA RANCH HOA

MEET: 2nd Wednesday of the month 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
OFF: June, July and August
Ogden & Company/Jackie Monty 623-628-4708

CRAFT CORNER

MEET: Every Monday 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Charlene McGarvey- 623-363-4608

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MEET: Every Other Month on the 2nd Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
OFF: June, July and August
Pam Kisala – 602-361-9287

YOUNGTOWN ART COMMISSION

MEET: 4th Wednesday of the month 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
OFF: June, July and August
Val Wilson – 623-810-3137

YOUNGTOWN COMMUNITY FUND

MEET: 4th Wednesday of the month 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Roger Cox – 623-826-3665

All clubs meet in the Clubhouse unless otherwise noted.

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Email your article to Jeanne Blackman: jblackman@youngtownaz.org

The right to accept or reject rests with the publication editor.



News You Can Use...

Canine Happenings at the Dog Park!

Welcome Spring! Great time to be outside with our beloved 4-legged friends, meeting up with others, or taking a walk around Maricopa Lake.

May's pup of the month is Liberty. Liberty and her owner Denise visit the dog park every day, Liberty really enjoys chasing after the ball and visiting with her furry friends.

I would like to thank board member Lorene and Irene for assisting with April's issue of The Youngtown Village Reporters' dog park article. They also brought us the idea of Pup of the Month.

The Citizens' Dog Park of Youngtown Board members are:

Margaret Chittenden- Board Chair; Kathryn French-Treasurer; Lorene Stoker-secretary; Irene Quentin and Dale Provence assist with a variety



Liberty - May's Pup of the Month

of duties regarding the park. Board members would like to invite the public to come to meetings.

The Citizens' Dog Park of

Youngtown holds committee meetings on the third Saturday of each month in the Clubhouse Kitchen, (12033 N Clubhouse Sq), meetings start at 10:30



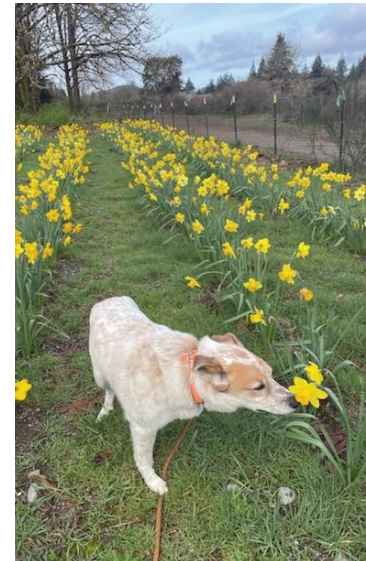
Spring wished from Zaylee

a.m.

Our next meeting will be held on May 18, 2024.

As reminder, committee meetings are open to everyone not just residents of Youngtown.

Come join us for our next meeting and bring your ideas



Daffodils smell good

and suggestions with you!

Donations can be made at the following locations: Kopyy's on Michigan Avenue, Spoiled Rotten Pet Salon at 11246 N. 113th Avenue, Youngtown Library and as always Youngtown Town Hall Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR

Nine Toxic Foods for Pets

- Raisins and grapes can cause irreversible kidney failure, and raisins are more toxic than chocolate.
- All chocolate contains a compound called theobromine and dark chocolate has the most.
- Xylitol is sugar free food. This sugar substitute is used in candy, breath mints, toothpaste and desserts which is highly toxic to dogs!
- Rising bread dough, yeast and sugars in raw bread dough that causes raw bread to rise and to give off ethanol as a byproduct causing the bread to swell in your pet's stomach.
- Onions, garlic, chives, leeks and shallots. No matter how you slice it, plants in the alacran family which are toxic, even in powder or cooked form.
- Macadamia nuts, if your pet is sensitive to nuts, may start toxic signs withing 12 hours.
- Raw meat and eggs. These run the risk of salmonella and E.coli to our pets and us.
- This information is from the VET IQ website.



NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY
Email your article to Jeanne Blackman: jblackman@youngtownaz.org
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Youngtown's Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program which enlists help from citizens in a cooperative effort with law enforcement to reduce crime in our community. Neighborhood Watch works best when neighbors get acquainted with neighbors and work together to identify and solve problems in our community. It is helping our hometown law enforcement, MCSO (Maricopa County Sheriff's Office) by being aware of and reporting any unusual activities as they occur. You know best what is "normal" activity in your neighborhood! It's putting neighbors back into neighborhoods! Neighborhood Watch builds strong neighborhoods!

The Town has worked with MCSO on establishing neighborhood watch cells for quite some time and we are grateful for all who have come together to form The Town of Youngtown's neighborhood watch committee! The committee is comprised of the following representatives: Mayor Mike LeVault, Councilmember Karen Haney Duncan, Councilmember Mike Francis, Councilmember Jim Starke (Neighborhood Watch Committee Chair), Town Manager Jeanne Blackman,



Youngtown residents Jodi Kaczynski and Ann Nelson. Jodi serves as our Committee Treasurer and Ann Nelson serves as our Committee Secretary.

Neighborhood Watch Captains help to coordinate neighborhood watch groups! They

lead the neighborhood watch groups and establish a telephone chain to open lines of communication! They send out important information to residents. Jodi Kaczynski has worked hard to develop a solid neighborhood watch group

in Agua Fria Ranch and Councilmember Jim Starke and resident Ann Nelson have worked together to form a strong core in the north part of Youngtown! The Town is grateful for their hard work and dedication to this important crime pre-

vention initiative!

If you are interested in being a part of Neighborhood Watch, please contact Jeanne Blackman, Town Manager, at 623-933-8286! We hope you will join us – we can't do this without you!

Youngtown Community Fund Medical Lending Center

We hope you are having a healthy 2024 so far. We are here to help in your mobility needs if you need us. We have walkers, wheelchairs, toilet risers, bedside commodes, crutches, etc. We loan for 4 months at no charge. Our equipment is sanitized when returned so our equipment is ready for your use.

We operate on cash donations and grants. We



also accept equipment that is in good condition to add to our inventory. You can also help by shopping at Fry's and naming us as your charity of

choice. We receive a check quarterly based on purchases. Your gas points are not lost.

Stop in and see us! We do not require a prescription to loan our items. Have a pleasant Spring!

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING CENTER
11215-A W. NEVADA AVE.
YOUNGTOWN, AZ 85363
623-977-4661

AARP Historic Chapter #1



AARP Sponsored SHRED-A-THON

SATURDAY

MAY 4, 2024

9-1

\$3 PER BOX

SHEPHERD OF THE DESERT LUTHERAN CHURCH

11025 N 111TH AVE
SUN CITY

SHREDDING DONE ON SIGHT



In The Works

May 2024



Marty Mosbrucker
Public Works Manager

Spring is in full bloom!

We experienced a colder and wetter than usual winter which can be refreshing but also downright cold in the mornings when you are outside working in it! Now we have spring to refresh our spirits! Get out and enjoy the weather if you are able, because before too long, the summer heat will arrive. One thing that we can most definitely count on in the Sonoran Desert is the summer heat. Think it will be a hot summer? Most definitely!

Weeds! Along with the welcomed rain, we now have an abundance of weeds. Removing the weeds from your property improves the appearance of your property and the neighborhood. Public Works sprays the weeds in the right of ways, including the alleys located adjacent to homes, once in the spring and once in the fall. Property residents who reside adjacent to alleyways, are responsible for weed removal in the alleyway that is directly adjacent to the property. You may not be aware of this, but the area in the alley behind your home, is your property. You the resident are responsible for the maintenance of this area. The Town does have right-of-way easement to conduct utility repairs and upgrades



in this area as well as, conducting right-of-way operations in the front area of your home along the street side; Regardless of the Towns right of way jurisdiction, it is the residents' responsibility to maintain these right-of-ways, keeping them weed free and debris free. Just as the resident must maintain their entire front yard to the street, they must also maintain their backyard from their fence to the alley. Community Pride starts with the residents in the community. Maintain your property; improve your neighborhood and property values rise. Your community also becomes a more desirable area to reside in when the homes are well maintained and attractive.

Vandalism! The Broken Windows Theory is a criminological theory that states that visible signs of crime, anti-social behavior, and civil disorder create an urban environment that encourages further crime and disorder, including serious crimes. The theory suggests that polic-

ing methods that target minor crimes, such as vandalism, loitering and public drinking, help to create an atmosphere of order and lawfulness. Along with the spring weather and more people getting out and about, the Town seems to experience an increase in vandalism. Vandalism is "action involving deliberate destruction of or damage to public or private property". The term also includes criminal damage such as graffiti and defacement directed towards any property without permission of the owner. Graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism (35%) according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. How can Youngtown citizens help to stop vandalism? Get to know your neighbors. It is important that you know the people around you and in your community. This makes it much easier to spot someone that doesn't belong and may be there to simply cause problems. Form a community association or neighborhood watch program. You can't fight van-

dalism on your own, so it is important that you engage your neighbors and others in your community in your battle as well. This not only helps them take a more active interest, but it also provides them with the opportunity to get to know each other. Hold parties and social activities in your neighborhood. Getting to know your neighbor goes beyond knowing their name and face. You should develop a friendship or trust of some type so they know to watch your back while you are watching theirs. Meet new neighbors as they move in. A great way to spot new neighbors is by watching homes that are for sale. Once you see the sign disappear go over and introduce yourself. Talk to your neighbors if you see something suspicious. Even if it is nothing, talking to them allows them to see you are concerned and take an interest, which will encourage them to do the same. If you live next to one of the Town's parks, please be observant for potential vandalism. If you observe someone

damaging something in the park, place a phone call to the MCSO office at 602-876-1011. The residents are the eyes and ears of the community.

Trees! During the summer of 2023, we experienced record breaking heat. Phoenix saw a temperature of 110° or hotter every single day from June 30th to July 30th. This made a record-setting 31 days in a row of extreme heat. Previously, that record was 18 consecutive days. The high temperature in Phoenix also soared to 115° and above 17 days in July. That is the most 115° plus days ever recorded in a single year. July temperatures also soared to some of the highest levels ever recorded with three days of highs at 119°! As if those scorching hot days were not bad enough, it was the lack of overnight relief that really made this heat wave unlike any other. For 16 straight days, the Phoenix temperature did not drop below 90°. That is more than double the previous record-long streak. In fact, it was so warm overnight through the month of July that a record warm low temperature of 97° degrees was set on the morning of July 19th. The only measurable rain collected at the Town's stormwater sampling collection points that Youngtown received over the entire summer was .16 of an inch on August 22nd. The past few summers have had record after record setting heat, accompanied by minimal rainfall. The weather prediction for this summer is, and I hate to write this, to be even hotter than last

summer! As you drive around the valley, you may have noticed or even experienced it in your own yard, that some trees and shrubs have died because of the extreme heat. Unfortunately, we had to remove and replace a few Ash trees in the Town Square area due to the extreme heat. The average lifespan for an Arizona Ash tree is 50 years. The Town hit it's 70-year anniversary this year. The Town Square Ash trees were closing in on 70 years old and just couldn't tolerate the extreme heat.

Enjoy! Take some time to enjoy the Town's amenities. A leisurely walk around the lake while enjoying the soothing sound of the water features and watching the waterfowl floating around will ease your mind. Relax in one of the Town parks with a book that you checked out from the Town Library. Engage in, or simply observe a council meeting. Council meetings are held virtually and in person on the first and third Thursday evenings. Information about meeting times and the agenda are available at Town Hall, the Town website, the digital sign boards, and park bulletin boards. Go for an evening stroll on one of the newly poured sidewalks and get to know your neighbors. Take a drive on what we consider to be some of the best maintained streets in the valley. Take your dog to the Town Dog Park, or simply stop by to observe the dogs playing. Play a game of basketball or bring the kids to the playgrounds to let off some energy. Just get out and enjoy!



MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

amazon Scam Alert



According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), in 2022 approx. \$8.8 billion dollars was lost to scams and fraudulent schemes - a 30% increase from 2021. MCSO is taking a proactive approach to reduce the likelihood of victimization in our community.

AMAZON DELIVERY SCAM

Recorded "Amazon" message states there is an issue with your account & to press 1 to speak to a representative.

SCAM CALLS MAY SOUND LIKE:

- ⚠️ "This is a call from AMAZON fraud department"
- ⚠️ "You are owed a refund from a recent AMAZON purchase immediately."
- ⚠️ We have identified some suspicious activity on your AMAZON account.



- They are overly vague on what was bought.
- "Someone has bought an iPhone on your account."
- "For verification purposes please confirm your Social Security # or provide your credit card information."

DO NOT PROVIDE PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Do NOT press 1 to speak with customer service.
- Do NOT call the phone number provided in any unsolicited request.
- Do NOT give out personal information.
- Monitor your Amazon account.

WHO TO CONTACT

MCSO: (602)-876-1011 | FTC: ReportFraud.ftc.gov | FBI: <http://ic3.gov/default/asp>



MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GIFT CARD Scam Alert



According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), in 2022 approx. \$8.8 billion dollars was lost to scams and fraudulent schemes - a 30% increase from 2021. MCSO is taking a proactive approach to reduce the likelihood of victimization in our community.

DID YOU KNOW?

Gift cards are the #1 payment method of scammers and they ask their victims to buy TARGET gift cards more than any other store.

GIFT CARD SCAM PREVENTION :

- ⚠️ You can NOT pay your taxes with a gift card.
- ⚠️ A legitimate business will NOT ask for a gift card as means of payment.
- ⚠️ You can NOT pay a lawyer with a gift card.
- ⚠️ You can NOT pay your Utilities with a gift card.
- ⚠️ Often scammers will guide you on what to say.
- ⚠️ You can NOT pay for Warrants with a gift card.



48,800 cases were reported to the FTC resulting in a loss of more than \$228 million

Examples Gift Card Scams

- Amazon Gift card
- Google Play Gift cards
- iTunes Gift cards
- Steam Gift cards
- Best Buy

WHO TO CONTACT

MCSO: (602)-876-1011 | FTC: ReportFraud.ftc.gov | FBI: <http://ic3.gov/default/asp>



MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Rental Scam Alert



According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), in 2022 approx. \$8.8 billion dollars was lost to scams and fraudulent schemes - a 30% increase from 2021. MCSO is taking a proactive approach to reduce the likelihood of victimization in our community.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- They can not meet you in person
- They want you to move in immediately
- They ask for payment BEFORE signing the contract
- The price is TOO GOOD
- The listing has typos, poor grammar, or excessive punctuation
- There's no tenant screening



RENTAL SCAM PREVENTION :

- ⚠️ Do NOT wire money as a form of payment
- ⚠️ Do NOT give into high pressure sales. They may urge you to rent it before someone else does
- ⚠️ Do NOT rent property you have not seen in person inside and out
- ⚠️ Do NOT give personal information
- ⚠️ Do NOT pay with a gift card RESEARCH the rental and owner



Nearly 12,000 people reported being a victim of this scam with an estimated \$400 million in losses nationwide in 2022

HOT TO AVOID THIS SCAM

- Always request a property tour
- Skip suspicious listings
- Always speak to the property owner
- Avoid sending money before moving in

WHO TO CONTACT

MCSO: (602)-876-1011 | FTC: ReportFraud.ftc.gov | FBI: <http://ic3.gov/default/asp>



MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ROMANCE Scam Alert



According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), in 2022 approx. \$8.8 billion dollars was lost to scams and fraudulent schemes - a 30% increase from 2021. MCSO is taking a proactive approach to reduce the likelihood of victimization in our community.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- BE CAREFUL of what you post on the internet (Hobbies Travels Interests Books , etc.)
- USE reputable websites
- RESEARCH the persons photo and profile



SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

- ⚠️ Scammers professes their love quickly.
- ⚠️ Claims to be from the US, but is overseas for business or military
- ⚠️ Asks for money and lures you off the dating site to a unmonitored message site
- ⚠️ Claims to need money for emergencies, hospital bills or to travel to see you.

- ASK QUESTIONS: If the person seems to good to be true they probably are
- BEWARE if you are asked for inappropriate photos or financial information
- NEVER send money to people you meet on the internet

- BE SUSPICIOUS if the person fails to show up to meet you multiple times.

- Do NOT transfer money for someone else.

WHO TO CONTACT

MCSO: (602)-876-1011 | FTC: ReportFraud.ftc.gov | FBI: <http://ic3.gov/default/asp>