



CHARLES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WATCH WORKS

SHERIFF TROY BERRY

FEBRUARY 2017

February 13:

Lincoln's Birthday

February 14:

Valentines Day

February 20:

Presidents Day

March 1:

Ash Wednesday

Is It Really Love?

If you have been befriended online by an attractive person (photo's usually taken from online)-usually who then tells a tale of falling into trouble or on hard times, this is probably an internet love scam. They persist with their story to gain your trust and then ask for money as proof of love. Send the money and either they need more, or they disappear.

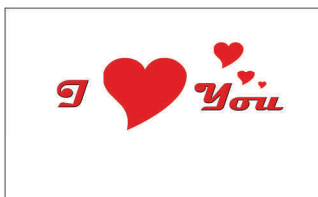
What to look for:

- Look for tell-tale signs, poor grammar, using fake photo's from the internet.
- Be wary of people who shower you with loving words and tell you how they feel about you even

before they meet you.

- Do not send gifts, money or anything of value in hast even if they sound desperate.

How to protect yourself:



- Talk to a friend or family member before you do anything. Be in control of your emotions. If money is requested, stay calm knowing this could be a scam.
- Don't reveal too much about yourself. Do not

post photo's that have a background that can be traced. Don't give out addresses or other personal information.

- Contact the police immediately if you receive any message or call from someone overseas, in trouble and needing you to send money.



Crime Watch Kickoff

The Charles County Sheriff's Office will hold a Crime Watch Kickoff meeting on March 22nd at 7:00 at the American Legion in La Plata. There will be a presentation on See Something, Say Something/ Active Shooter given

by Raymond Hanna from Protective Security and Coordination Division, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Connie Gray 301-932-3080. CCSO is committed to keeping our com-

munities safe. We look forward to meetings such as the Crime Watch Kickoff because they provide a wonderful opportunity for fellowship .and good conversation. Hope to see you there!

Have You Been Stolen?

Protect yourself from Identity theft.

If your purse or billfold is stolen:

- Notify ALL your credit card companies.
- Call the Credit Bureaus and report the theft. Ask the Bureaus to place a "FRAUD ALERT" on your Credit Report. 1-888-766-0008

If you determine that your identity has been stolen:

- Notify ALL your credit card companies and banks.
- Call all Credit Bureaus.
- Notify your banks
- Notify your mortgage company.

- Keep a good record of all of your communications and any evidence of identity theft that you obtain.
- File a police report and obtain copies of the report.
- Purchase a "cross cut" shredder. Shred all documents containing sensitive information before throwing in the trash.
- Destroy all personal papers that you don't need.
- Destroy expired or unused credit, debit or ATM cards so that the numbers and magnetic strip cannot be used.
- Don't carry identification documents in your purse or billfold that you don't need on a daily basis.
- Obtain credit cards with your picture on it if available.
- Reduce what you consider excessive "approved" credit card dollar limits to meet your personal needs. Do you really need a \$25,000 credit limit?
- Never have your Social Security Number or driver's license number printed on your checks.
- Do not mail bill payments from home mail box. Promptly move new mail from your mailbox.



dreamstime



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COMMUNITY
ORGANIZER
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A Word From Your Community Organizer

Now that we are into 2017 are you still working on your New Year's resolution or have you given up? I am still working on mine. Yes it is hard to

stick to something new. They say it takes 21 to make or break a habit. I believe making a habit would be easier than breaking one. I'm working on more fruit

and vegetables and less carbs. This has been extremely hard because I really like bread, yeast rolls, sweet rolls etc. Wish me luck!!

Safe Winter Driving Checklist

Plan your travel and route. Keep yourself and others safe by planning ahead before you venture out into bad weather. Check the weather and road conditions. Plan to leave early if necessary.

No one wants to break down in any season, but especially not in cold or snowy winter weather. Start the season off right by ensuring your vehicle is in optimal condition.

Get your car serviced now:

- ◆ Visit your mechanic for a tune-up or other routine maintenance.
- ◆ Have your entire vehicle checked thoroughly for any leaks, bad hoses, or other needed part repairs or replacements.
- ◆ Check to make sure your tires are properly inflated. Have the tread checked to make sure it is sufficient with no uneven wear.

When the temperature drops, so does battery power. Plus, it takes more power to start your vehicle in cold weather than in warm. Find out if your battery is up to the chal-

-enges of winter. Have your battery checked for sufficient voltage. If necessary replace the battery.

When coolant freezes it expands. Such expansion can potentially damage your vehicle's engine block beyond repair. Don't let this happen to your vehicle this winter!

- ◆ Make sure you have enough coolant in your vehicle and that it's designed to withstand the winter temperatures you might experience in your area.

You can go through a lot of windshield wiper fluid fairly quickly in a single snowstorm, so be prepared for ever changing winter weather.

- ◆ Make sure your windshield wipers work and replace worn blades.
- ◆ Check to see that your window defrosters (front and rear) work properly.
- ◆ Every vehicle handles somewhat differently; this is particularly true when driving on wet, icy, or snowy roads. If you have a new vehicle or new driver, take time to learn how to

- ◆ best handle your vehicle under winter weather driving conditions.
- ◆ Practice driving when your area gets snow—but not on a main road! It's best to practice in an empty lot in full daylight.
- ◆ Drive slowly. It's harder to control or stop your vehicle on a slick or snow covered surface. Sufficiently increase your following distance so you'll have plenty of time to stop for vehicles ahead of you.
- ◆ Know what kind of brakes your vehicle has and how to use them properly.
- ◆ If you find yourself in a skid, stay calm and ease your foot off the gas while carefully steering in the direction you want the front of your vehicle to go. This procedure known as "steering into the skid," will bring the back end of your car in line with the front.



Stock your vehicle. Carry items in your vehicle to handle common winter driving tasks.





Charles County Sheriff's Office

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MISSION STATEMENT

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE THROUGH SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE. WE BELIEVE MUTUAL RESPECT, TRUST AND PRIDE IN OUR ORGANIZATION, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES AND INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES, WILL ENSURE THE COMMUNITY'S RIGHT TO A SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

Value Statements

LIFE We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.

RESPECT We believe in individual human dignity and the preservation of human rights under the rule and spirit of law, always treating others as we would like to be treated.

INTEGRITY We believe in maintaining the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest moral and ethical standards.

FAIRNESS We believe in the delivery of service that provides fair and equal treatment to all citizens without regard to age, gender, race, creed, color, religion or national origin.

TRUST We believe in order to provide effective service we must develop and maintain the confidence of the community.

PARTNERSHIPS We believe in working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve

problems and issues which affect the safety of our citizens.

LOYALTY We believe in an allegiance to the community, to the organization and to each other.

PROFESSIONALISM We believe in delivering a level of service which will reflect the pride we have in our community and organization.



Charles County Sheriff's Office
Honor Guard.