

Show Low Monthly News



October 2003

www.ci.show-low.az.us

Is someone stealing your identity?

Did you know that identity theft is the fastest-growing financial crime in the U.S. today and the most costly? Identify theft is the fraudulent use of your name and personal data by another person to obtain services, merchandise and/or credit. It can happen to anyone. All someone needs is your full name, Social Security number and date of birth to open bogus accounts and drain them completely.

A thief can ruin your credit, steal your home, empty your bank account and be gone without a trace. It is up to YOU to safeguard your identity. There are many ways a thief can get your personal information.

How? Mail theft (stealing your mail and looking for personal information, pre-approved credit offers and "live" checks).

Solution? Get a mailbox with a lock or use a post office box.

How? Stealing company data (getting data from company databases or commercial Web sites where credit card information is stored).

Solution? Ask your company or financial institution to use encryption systems.

How? Pretexting (using a false pretense to get you to reveal personal information via e-mail, telemarketing or personal contact with store clerks and salespersons).

Solution? Do not use e-mail to send your Social Security number or other personal data. Do not give data to anyone over the telephone unless you have contacted them.

How? Dumpster diving (digging through household trash looking for bills, medical statements or other papers that contain personal information).

Solution? Shred or rip into small pieces any papers with personal information and put them in more than one trash bag.

How? Account takeover (using stolen or fake identification to take over an account, escaping detection by forwarding mail to private mailboxes or new addresses).

Solution? Ask your mortgage lender to use cross-checking to ensure the legality of the transaction.

How? Skimming (using handheld magnetic card readers to get personal information off the magnetic strip on credit or debit cards).

Solution? Do not let people take your credit/debit card out of your sight.

How? Raiding your old computer (recovering personal data from the hard drives of discarded computers).

Solution? Make sure all personal data is deleted off old computers before they are discarded.

What else can you do to protect your identity?

✓ Check *financial statements* promptly and report problems immediately.

✓ *Watch your credit.* Order copies of your credit report every

Notice!

The U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and White Mountain Apache Tribe will begin prescribed burn treatments on public and reservation lands soon. More information is available on City 4 TV.

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Enjoy a safe and fun Halloween

Show Low Main Street's annual **Trunk or Treat** is scheduled for Friday, October 31, 2003, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Festival Marketplace. This is a safe, fun and FREE way for kids—and the whole family—to enjoy Halloween. This popular event drew over 2,000 children last year.



Local merchants and representatives from a variety of organizations will don Halloween costumes and hand out treats to the kids from the trunks of their vehicles. Enjoy food, game booths and lots of fun! Parents as well as children can dress up for Halloween. Enter the costume contest to win great prizes.

For more information or to help with this event, contact Show Low Main Street at 537-8181.

Storytelling Festival

The 2003 Second White Mountain Storytelling Festival initiated a new format, adding storytelling in the schools to the public performances and workshops held in 2002. On August 29, over 370 Show Low students heard outstanding musical and storytelling performances. Most were first- and third-graders, along with a special education class from the high school. The next day at Northland Pioneer College, people enjoyed workshops on telling stories to children, turning a story into a song and creating stories from life experiences. Throughout the

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Calendar of Events

Aquatic Center: 532-4130 • Recreation: 532-4140
Public Library: 532-4070

- 10/01 2 p.m., Aquatic Center
Water Activity (all ages)
- 10/04 10 a.m. (shotgun start), Torreon Golf Club
Matt Williams 2003 Celebrity Golf Tournament
(call 368-8999 to register; proceeds support youth programs)
- 10/04 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Show Low Fire Department (N. 6th Street)
Public Safety Open House (FREE to the public; enjoy refreshments, tours, discount pet vaccinations)
- 10/06 6–7 p.m., National Guard Armory
Dog Obedience classes begin (for dogs 4 months+)
- 10/07 Council Chambers
5 p.m., **City Council Study Session**
6 p.m., **Board of Adjustment Meeting**
7 p.m., **City Council Meeting**
- 10/08 1:30 p.m., Public Library (book: The Brave Cowboy)
Arizona Humanities Book Discussion
- 10/13 **Fall Swim Lessons** begin, Aquatic Center
Coed Volleyball Games begin
- 10/14 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- 10/15 2:45 p.m., Recreation conference room
Halloween craft class (grades 2-6)
- 10/16 7 p.m., Council Chambers (guest speaker: Julian Castillo)
Show Low Historical Society Meeting
- 10/21 Council Chambers
5 p.m., **City Council Study Session**
7 p.m., **City Council Meeting**
- 10/23 2 p.m., Aquatic Center
Water Activity (all ages)
- 10/28 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- 10/23 **Pumpkin Carving Contest** (all ages)
Drop off carved pumpkins at the Public Library until 1 p.m., 10/29 (judging held prior to 10/29 party)
- 10/24 7–9 p.m., **Halloween Bash** (all ages), Aquatic Center
- 10/25 9 a.m., **Candy Scramble** (ages 10 & under), Centennial Park
- 10/25 2 p.m., Aquatic Center
Underwater Pumpkin Hunt (ages 11-17)
- 10/29 5–6 p.m., **Halloween Party** (all ages), Public Library
- 10/31 5–8 p.m., Festival Marketplace
Trunk or Treat (for all ages)

Check out City 4 Television and the City's Web site at www.ci.show-low.az.us for more information

Show Low Monthly News is produced by the City of Show Low, 200 West Cooley, Show Low, AZ 85901. Direct comments to the City Clerk's office at 532-4061 or, for general information, call 532-4000. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- **Identity theft...***continued from cover page*
- year from each of three major credit reporting agencies.
- ✓ **Do NOT give out personal information** unless YOU initiated the transaction. You do not have to share information with your financial institution.
- ✓ **Travel light.** Do not carry identification that contains your Social Security number unless it's absolutely necessary.
- ✓ **Shred and destroy papers** with personal information before throwing in the trash. Remove and destroy hard drives before discarding.
- ✓ **Do NOT use private or "strange-looking" ATM machines.** They may be rigged to copy information from your credit/debit card's magnetic strip.
- ✓ **Use initials** on your checks instead of your full name.
- ✓ **Do NOT put the full credit card number** on checks. Use only the last four digits.
- ✓ **Use your work telephone number** (with permission) on checks instead of your home number.
- ✓ **If you have a post office box,** use it instead of your home address.
- ✓ **NEVER have checks imprinted with your Social Security number.**
- ✓ **Photocopy all credit/debit cards, license, insurance cards, etc.** in your wallet and keep them in a safe place.
- ✓ **Have the toll-free numbers** to your credit/debit cards handy so you know whom to call.
- ✓ **Call three national credit reporting organizations** immediately to place a FRAUD ALERT on your name and Social Security number.
- **If you become a victim, take the following steps:**
- 1) **Report the crime** to your local police department.
- 2) **File a complaint** with the Federal Trade Commission (877-ID-THEFT or 877-438-4338). The FTC investigates interstate and Internet fraud.
- 3) **Alert your credit card companies.**
- 4) **Alert the three major national credit reporting organizations:** Equifax at 1-800-525-6285; Experian TWR at 1-888-397-3742 and Trans Union at 1-800-680-7289.
- 5) **Notify the Social Security Administration** at 1-800-269-0271.
- 6) **Notify banks, creditors and utilities.**
- 7) **Get a credit report each year.**
- 8) **Seek other help,** such as an attorney, Legal Aid and/or the Navajo County Attorney's Office.
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- **Storytelling Festival...***continued from cover page*
- afternoon, performers sang and told stories at City Park to the audience.
- The Festival focuses on sharing ethnic, cultural and historical aspects of Arizona and the Southwest. Performers this year included Lynn Bevill, Dean Cook, Sue Harris, Michael Lacapa, Tony Norris, Sheila Pattison, Ricardo Provencio and Liz Warren. These lively professionals shared a wealth of diverse experience, and received praises for enlightening and entertaining everyone.
- Future plans are to combine storytelling and music with a Wild West Fest, and include a Dutch oven cooking contest, horse rides, quick draw competitions and arts and crafts exhibits. Interested in planning the next Festival? Contact Library Director Phil Heikkinen at 532-4073.