



The S.A.L.T. Shaker

Shaking Knowledge All Over
Tarrant County!

This S.A.L.T. is GOOD for you!!

"Seniors and Law Enforcement Together"



Volume 2, Issue 2

April 2010

A Quarterly Publication

THE BEST CONFERENCE YET!!

If you didn't attend this year's Senior Fraud and Crime Prevention Conference, you missed a good one! Feedback from attendees is telling us it was the best conference in the 11 years we have been presenting them. Our expert speakers covered Medicare Fraud, Identity Theft, Crime Prevention Tips and how to use 9-1-1. Dave Lieber (the Star Telegram "Watch Dog") was our Keynote Speaker and what a show he put on! Entertaining as it was, he also gave excellent tips for avoiding fraud.



Don't Be The Next Victim

Did you know that vehicle burglaries and accessory thefts are some of the most frequently reported property crimes? The number one reason for vehicles burglaries and accessory thefts is: items left inside the

vehicle and in open view from the outside the vehicle.

Because your property is very important to you, here are some suggestions for better securing those items:

*Remove (or place in trunk) all personal items.

*Park in well lighted areas at night.

*Be alert to your surroundings when parking your vehicle.

*Lock your vehicle and take your keys!

Inside this issue:

*2010 Fraud Conference	1
*Vehicle Burglaries	1
*Comfort Zone	2
*Neighbor Helping Neighbor	2
*Attorney General	3
*Speakers Bureau	4



Alzheimer's Association Comfort Zone is a new Web-based GPS location management service that can help families stay alive.

Comfort Zone uses the Internet and a device to track the location of a person with Alzheimer's. Safety zones can be set-up and alerts received from a Web application. Family members can monitor a person's location while the Alzheimer's patient can maintain their independence and enjoy the emotional security of familiar routines and surroundings.

For more information and prices: www.alz.org/comfortzone or 817-336-4949.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor

The Neighbor Helping Neighbor (NHN) program serves adults over 60 who need assistance maintaining a healthy lifestyle. NHN serves to reduce the effects of senior isolation by facilitating service delivery, building a sustainable network of volunteers and service providers and providing case management to those in need.



The United Way's Area Agency on Aging and Meals on Wheels, Inc. of Tarrant County are spearheading the NHN program in Tarrant County to assist socially isolated seniors and help them enjoy better, safer lives while remaining in their own homes.

Volunteers and professionals from neighborhood and church groups, city government, businesses and human service organizations are all involved in providing a variety of services, including: errand assistance, wheelchair ramps, safety equipment, yard maintenance, household chores, friendly visits by phone and in person, information and referral services and meals.

NHN aims to improve the quality of life for older adults in your area. If you are interested in volunteering and/or interested in adding another friend to your list, please contact Ann-Maree Freeland at 817-258-6441.

From Attorney General of Texas, Greg Abbott:

Consumer Alert: Texans Should Safely Participate in 2010 U.S. Census, Watch for Identity Theft Scams

With the arrival of April, the 2010 U.S. Census is officially underway. Texans should quickly complete and return the forms to the Census Bureau. When doing so, residents should be cautious of con artists who are using the program as an opportunity to swindle people out of their hard-earned money, and even their identities.

Recently, we heard from a concerned Texan who received a letter that appeared to be a Census form. The recipient said that the form asked for her Social Security number, which she provided on her completed form.

A few days later, the woman received another Census form—but this form did not ask for her Social Security number. She realized that the first letter was likely a fraudulent attempt to obtain her personal information and steal her identity.

Texans should remember that the official 2010 Census questionnaire asks 10 questions—none of which request personal financial information such as bank or credit card numbers or Social Security numbers.

No official census information will be collected via email, so anyone who receives an email that appears to come from the U.S. Census should be cautious. These are very likely fraudulent emails unlawfully seeking recipients' personal information.

In the coming weeks, Census workers will begin walking door-to-door in residential areas in order to verify certain Census information. Participants should always look for identification from Census takers before opening the door and agreeing to provide personal information. Census Bureau employees will be clearly identified with a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice.

Some Texans may receive an American Community Survey, a legitimate questionnaire that collects statistical data for federal and state government programs. Recipients who have questions about the survey should visit <https://ask.census.gov>

Texans who think they may have completed and returned fraudulent census forms should immediately take steps to prevent their identities from being stolen. Victims should file a report with local law enforcement and contact the credit bureaus to secure a fraud alert. They should also visit the attorney general Web site at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov or call 1-800-252-8011 and ask for a copy of the Identity Theft Victim's Kit.

