

TIP OF THE DAY – The benefits of a lockbox



<u>Register with Lincoln Police</u> so that Police or Fire Dept won't have to break down your door in an emergency.

Working in the back yard & need something from the garage? No problem; unlock the side door. Have a key for your Mom's house in Lincoln Hills? Keep it in there with your key.

SUSPICIOUS OCCURRENCE – One of our female residents, in the **800 block of Bridalveil Lane**, was home alone when someone rang the doorbell. This resident was not expecting anyone at that time, **2:30 in the afternoon**, so <u>she very</u> <u>smartly did not open the doo</u>r. She looked out of the side window and observed "a very poorly dressed dirty looking fifty year old male with bad teeth." She asked him to leave but he kept looking at her through the window. She showed this person her can of pepper spray and told him she had called the police. He still "hung around." She called her husband and he came home in about 15 minutes. By that time the person at the door had left the area. The police were never called!! (V14 is surrounded by golf course, entrance is Ingram Pkwy off Del Webb Blvd.)

The resident did the right thing by not opening the door. <u>Once you open your door you lose that barrier of protection and</u> <u>you become very vulnerable</u>. In situations like this do not hesitate to call the police **non-emergency number**. (Emergency # 911, Non-emergency # 916-645-4040)

ATTEMPTED EMAIL SCAM – A resident received an email, allegedly from **McAfee** company, stating that he owed money on a purchase. This email included an invoice showing the amount owed and a telephone number to call if there were any questions. The resident called the number and he was told that **the invoice could be cancelled for a fee.** The resident hung up <u>and searched his computer for the McAfee company business phone number</u>. He found what he thought was the legitimate McAfee company phone number. When he called that number the person who answered **sounded just like the scammer** he had just hung up on. This person again attempted to convince the resident he owed money to McAfee. This resident was not fooled. He hung up on the scammer. After that he received several calls but he did not answer the phone.

When searching for any company or organization be careful and look closely at the heading for that company or organization. I'm not a computer expert so I asked my computer tech, Steven Boose. He advises that scammers have installed phony websites that may have the same or similar name to the one you are looking for so look for the domain name up in the address bar. For example: McAfee.com. If that address had some other name (.com) beware even if it says the correct company or organization below that domain name.

Alerts Program Coordinator, Mary Cranston, finally found some insight into how and why people fall for phone scams. Charlotte Cowles, a financial advice columnist for *New York* magazine, fell for a scheme where she put \$50,000 in a shoebox and handed it to a stranger. She describes in great detail her 5-hour ordeal and information into how it worked in her <u>2/15/24 column</u>. A short article was posted on <u>MORNINGSTAR</u> the same day.

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