

CRIME WATCH

Your knowledge is our power
954-435-6528



CITIZENS' CRIME WATCH of Pembroke Pines

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Identity Theft: Evolving with Technology – Part II

HACKING INTO YOUR LIFE

One example of the growing computer hacking problem in which personal information was stolen emerged in February 2006 when an information broker, ChoicePoint Inc., announced that an identity theft ring had hacked into its database and gained access to hundreds of thousands of personal documents. Some of the information that was stolen included full names, Social Security numbers, home addresses and credit reports. Many other large corporations such as T-Mobile USA were also recently hacked and had their clients' information stolen. Even superstar Paris Hilton could not escape the threat of identity theft as her personal photos, text messages and phone numbers in her personal directory were stolen by a hacker and spread across the Internet. The U.S. Senate will soon hold hearings to determine whether these corporations and information brokers require more extensive regulation.

PHISHING - DON'T GET HOOKED!

Phishing is currently on the rise around the world as well. Phishing works because scammers are able to construct bogus e-mails, pop-up ads and even web-

sites that appear to be from legitimate businesses or agencies. They inspire a false sense of trust, and then send out e-mails asking for personal and financial data so they can steal identities. Some phishing e-mails may even install software on your computer that could be used to redirect your computer to bogus websites. Be extremely cautious of whom you trust with personal information on the Internet. You should know that legitimate businesses will never ask you to provide or confirm any personal information through an e-mail or pop-up message.

TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND THE INTERNET

The Internet can be a powerful tool, and the convenience it offers to manage business and recreation is invaluable. But theft and fraud are damaging the positive reputation of the Internet as a medium for business. Consumers are losing confidence in their own safety on the Internet and fewer people are making purchases online these days.

However, there are steps that you can take to decrease your chances of becoming a victim and to help catch cyber-

criminals at work:

Be aware that there are people online who would like to gain access to your personal information. Do not share this information unless you have initiated the exchange or are absolutely sure of who is receiving it.

Install security and scanning software onto your computer to protect it from online hacking.

Do not use your name, date of birth, address or any other personal information for passwords. These passwords are easily cracked by hackers. In fact, it is suggested that for any password, you should not use a word that is found in the dictionary, as there are hacking programs that will attempt every word in the dictionary.

Never disclose personal information in response to an e-mail. Legitimate businesses would never ask you to do this. If an e-mail or pop-up ad requests you to confirm personal information, even if it looks genuine, it is an example of phishing and should be reported to reportphishing@antiphishing.org, the attorneys at the Securities and Exchange Commission at enforcement@sec.gov, and to the Federal Trade Commission at uce@ftc.gov.

If you are concerned about an e-mail you receive from a company, contact that company by phone to verify the information. If there is a web link provided in the e-mail, type it directly into your browser instead of using the link or copying and pasting it, as some links can be redirected to other sites.

When giving personal information over a website, look at make sure that site is secure. Check at the first part of the web address in your browser. It should read <https://> and not <http://>

Regularly check your credit card and bank statements and keep track of your transactions. Also, log into your online accounts frequently. This way, you will be able to notice any changes to your account soon after it happens.

By taking these steps, you can greatly reduce your chance of having your identity stolen, and help to combat this growing problem. If you are careful not to reveal personal information online and help make others aware of the risks, you will be playing a part in making the Internet a safer place for all of us to communicate and conduct business.

For more information on phishing and identity theft, visit www.antiphishing.org.

Puppets teach safety

Crime Watch performs these puppet shows for free in Pembroke Pines at daycare centers, preschools, elementary schools, community centers, businesses, clubhouses, churches, synagogues, mosques or any other place where there are youngsters. For shows in other cities near Pembroke Pines, call the Crime Watch office for show criteria.

Shows we perform include "Stranger Danger," "Traffic Safety," "Stop, Drop and Roll"



and "Crawl Low In Smoke," to name a few. A Pembroke Pines police officer from the Community Affairs Unit or a Crime Prevention Practitioner from Citizens' Crime Watch speaks to the children before and after each show to explain and reinforce the lessons taught.

Please call Lou Manfra, Executive Director, at 954-435-6528.

Phishing e-mail samples

(Do not go to any links in these e-mail samples)

The following two e-mails are those which we refer to as phishing e-mails. Read each one carefully. Notice the poor use of English grammar: misspelled words, non-capitalized words at the beginning of sentences and poorly constructed sentences.

Each one requests you to click on a link and report to them your account information. First, no legitimate business is going to ask you to confirm your account information because it already has the information. The claim that their computer crashed and they lost your data is bogus. No large business is going to operate without backing up its data in case of a computer crash.

Second, float your cursor over the links (do not click on them!) given in the phishing e-mail and see what the real URL is. This will alert you that this e-mail is fraudulent.

To report a fraudulent e-mail, forward it directly to: Federal Trade Commission (spam@uce.gov); Report Phishing (reportphishing@antiphishing.org); Securities & Exchange Commission (enforcement@sec.gov).

Also, if you know the legitimate website of the company claimed in the phishing e-mail, go to it yourself and find the e-mail address to report fraudulent e-mails. Most companies now have this information available on their websites.

Don't be a victim!

From: Wellsfargo Online Service Centre [mailto:online@wellsfargo.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2007 1:47 AM
To: CrimeWatch@bellsouth.net
Subject: Account Update
Dear Wellsfargo Customer(s)
it is our service to bring to you the notification of file disruption in the data base, due to the intruding of ERROR NOD066FH17 detected by the system manager automatically, while some files have been temporary gone astray due to the disruption. Therefore, all customers are urgently required to please put forward their account information appropriately to retrieve the missing files in order to set the data-base into normal state.
This message is sent from a secure server, so therefore, any message recieved other than this is not from wellsfargo's online service centre and it should be declined immediately to prevent online account theft.
our aim is to deliver the best and safer online baking to our customers round the world.
Please click below to put forward your account login
Click Here
<http://www.elintegral.com.mx/components/com_extcalendar/images/wellsfargo-update/wellsfargo.htm>

From: Paypal [mailto:service@paypal.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2007 10:29 PM
Subject: PayPal Account@ Possible Fraud - Notification

PayPal Account@ Possible Fraud - Notification
Security check !
You have received this email because your account has been used from different locations by you or someone else.
For security purpose, we are required to open an investigation into this matter. In order to safeguard your account, we require that you confirm your banking details. To help speed up this process, please access the following link so we can complete the verification of your PayPal Account:
Alert code: 1125452186
https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/websec?cmd=_login-submit?1125452186

Please Note:
If we do not receive the appropriate account verification within 48 hours, then we will assume this PayPal Bank account is fraudulent and will be suspended. The purpose of this verification is to ensure that your bank account has not been fraudulently used and to combat the fraud from our community.
We appreciate your support and understanding and thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.
Regards,
PayPal - Paypal Account@ Security Department
© 2007 PayPal Account & Co.
Please do not reply to this email as this is only a notification. Mail sent to this address cannot be answered.
PayPal Account@ Banking Department

Crime Watch distributes free Child ID Kits

This year Pembroke Pines Crime Watch has issued over 1,100 Child ID Kits at Pines Day, at the PAL Valentine Breakfast held at Rickey's Restaurant in SilverLakes, at Kids Connection held at Pembroke Shores Park, at Pembroke Isles Day, at the Police-Fire Open House, at Wal-Mart Supercenter, and at the Broward County Kiwanis Clubs' "Christmas In July" at the Bank Atlantic Center.

Scheduled events:
August 18, 2007 - Wal-Mart Super Center at the SE corner of Pines Blvd and SW 184th Ave.
October 26, 2007 - Pines Night Out in Walter C. Young Middle School's Jim Davidson Theater at 901 NW 129th Ave.

Each kit we issue has a digital photo of the child and a right thumb print. Extra ink is provided to allow the parents to do the prints of the other fingers at home.
The Child ID Kit also

includes a DNA Isolation Card with a sterile swab and explicit instructions. In other sections of the kit parents can enter personal, medical, and dental information.

Parents also receive information on Crime Watch's other crime prevention programs.

"Our goal is that we would like to see every child in our city receive one of these kits but hope it is never used," said Lou Manfra, Executive Director of Crime Watch.

Crime Watch invites schools, residential communities, and businesses to join us this year in sponsoring this worthwhile event.

Eduardo Barranco, the Crime Watch Merchant Coordinator, organizes these events. Certain criteria must be met to qualify to have a Child ID Kit event.

Call the Crime Watch office at 954-435-6528 to schedule a Child ID Kit event at your location or to get the latest schedule.

WARNING
CITIZENS CRIME WATCH
CRIME WATCH AREA
CITIZENS IMMEDIATELY REPORT SUSPICIOUS PERSONS TO THE PEMBROKE PINES POLICE DEPT
954-431-2200
954-765-4321

This Crime Watch street sign can be in your residential or business community!
Call 954-435-6528 for information.

FOR OFFICE USE: ZONE _____ RA _____ BLK _____ PPZ _____ ID# _____

RESIDENT APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE CHECK THE APPLICABLE BOX AND COMPLETE THE FORM (Your e-mail address is important):

MEMBERSHIP IS NOW FREE NEW RENEWAL

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____ APT: _____ BLDG: _____
CITY: PEMBROKE PINES ZIP Code: _____
DEVELOPMENT: _____ SUBDIVISION: _____
TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
Home: (____) _____ - _____ Work: (____) _____ - _____
Cell 1: (____) _____ - _____ Cell 2: (____) _____ - _____
Fax: (____) _____ - _____ Other: (____) _____ - _____
E-Mail: _____@_____ (Primary means to communicate)

EMERGENCY CONTACT: Please fill in below with the name and telephone number of someone who either has a key to your home or knows where you can be reached:
NAME: _____ LOCAL TEL. NO.: (____) _____ - _____

WILL YOU PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO BECOME A BLOCK CAPTAIN?: Yes No

ALL YOUR INFORMATION IS PRIVATE - ONLY CRIME WATCH HAS ACCESS TO IT

Send to: **CRIME WATCH, 501 NW 103 AVE, PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33026-3924**
Office: 954-435-6528 Fax: 954-431-2855 E-mail: CrimeWatch@bellsouth.net

IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND INFORMATION

911
EMERGENCY – CRITICAL - IMMEDIATE
Call this number for imminent danger to life and property: Crime in Progress, Fire, Personal Injury, Automobile Accident, Prowlers, etc
954-436-3200

954-431-2200 / 954-765-4321
NON-EMERGENCY – PROMPT DISPATCH
Call this number for quick response to non-emergency situations: Suspicious Incidents or Persons, Juvenile Disturbance, Vandalism, Graffiti, Minor Crimes, etc.
954-435-6528

POLICE INFORMATION / ADMINISTRATION
Call this number at the Police Department for basic information: Administrative Info, Vacation Watch, Security Survey, Bike Rodeos, VIN Etching, CLUB Giveaways, etc.

CRIME WATCH OFFICE
Call this number for Crime Watch Program information: Schedule a Meeting, Safety Puppet Show, Child ID's, Gun Buy Back Program, Security Survey, etc.

Crime Watch Web Site: www.PPines.com/Police/CrimeWatch
Crime Watch e-mail: CrimeWatch@bellsouth.net