



FROM THE OFFICE OF
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR
SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

THE SENIOR NEWS



SENIOR SAFETY AWARENESS 2016 CALENDAR

Meet Avery II, our facility dog.



Avery's primary job is to provide emotional support for crime victims and witnesses.

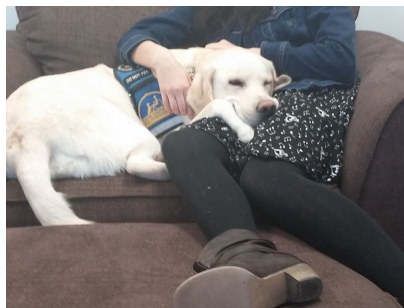
Calendar Sponsored by Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh

Just in time for our September Senior Safety Awareness Month, our Senior Safety Calendars are now available. If you are interested in getting a copy of one, please contact Melanie Hart at (330) 643-8674 or hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net.

The most important feature of our senior calendar is the tips provided each month. These tips are related to actual crimes we see in our office. Please read these tips and share them with your family and friends.

This year's cover spotlights Avery, a very important member of my office. Since Avery's arrival in August, 2013, he has worked with victims and victims' families in numerous cases. Avery attends meetings with victims and even escorts children to court and sits at their feet while they testify.

In February, a 7-year-old girl was the victim of a horrible crime. After hugging Avery and coloring pictures for a while, she was finally able to tell us what happened to her.



Upcoming Events

Senior Safari at the Akron Zoo

September 4, 2015, 9am-2pm
Seniors 62 & older \$5 admission
Seniors' caregivers \$7
Free to Akron Zoo Members

Senior Self-Defense

September 8, 2015, 1pm-3pm
Barberton Active Adult Center
500 W. Hopocan Ave.
Barberton, Ohio 44203

Senior Crime Safety Speech

September 15, 2015, 12pm-2pm
Quirk Cultural Center
1201 Grant Avenue
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223

Senior Safety-Self-Defense

September 17, 2015, 12pm-1pm
Christ Church Eposcopal-Parish Hall
21 Aurora Street
Hudson, Ohio 44236

Scam Seminar

September 20, 2015, 1pm-3pm
Tangier's/House of the Lord
532 W. Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44303

Mother/Daughter Self-Defense

September 24, 2015, 6pm-8pm
Manchester Christian Church
930 West Nimisila Road
Akron, Ohio 44319

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Summit County Deputy Chief Prosecutor Joe Fantozzi talks to attendees of the Senior Safety Fair at Roses Run Country Club in Stow about simple self-defense techniques to get out of a dangerous situation.

Watch Out For Health-Aid Scams!

Often, senior citizens seek home health care givers to help them with their day-to-day activities, such as general housekeeping, shopping, meal preparation and assisting with personal hygiene.

Unfortunately, sometimes home health aides can be more trouble than help. They can scam you out of jewelry, cash, credit cards and other valuables in your home without you even noticing. However, these scammers can be stopped!

- If you are looking to hire a home health aide, be sure to go through a licensed company that does background checks.
- Also, consider installing cameras in your home to monitor any suspicious activities.
- Do not leave your valuables in plain sight and do not tell your home health aid where you keep your wallet, purse, checks or credit cards.
- Monitor your bank statements often. Any fraudulent or suspicious transactions?



Avery was so excited to meet Dick Goddard who was instrumental in getting House Bill 60 passed. Known as "Goddard's Law," this law will toughen penalties in cases of animal cruelty.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Increasing Among Seniors

Close to 2,550 cases of syphilis were reported among adults in 2010 - up by 900 reported cases recorded in 2000. So who are included in those numbers? According to the CDC, adults between the ages of 45 and 65 are increasingly exchanging STD's. According to a 2010 Indiana University report, people 45 years and over have the lowest rate of condom use.

While moving into a nursing home or assisted living facility might be a necessity, it is important to practice safe-sex regardless of age. STD's are increasing in those facilities at an alarming rate. One of the best ways to prevent STD's is speaking with your doctor about safe-sex practices. Take care of yourself, and your partner.

Safeguard Your Finances

My office is seeing too many cases where an elderly victim is being taken advantage of financially by a family member. The suspect agrees to help with check writing to pay bills and then all of a sudden they are traveling to Vegas and Florida on the victim's credit cards or checking account. The victim's ATM cards are being used for everyday purchases.

My suggestion is if you have a family member helping you pay bills, have another trusted family member or friend check your finances to make sure your money is being used properly.