

## FROM THE OFFICE OF SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH



# THE SENIOR NEWS

#### Message from Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh

#### SENIOR SAFETY AWARENESS 2023 CALENDAR



for this year's cover photo

My office is gearing up for our Senior Safety Awareness Month celebrated each year during September. Our 2023 Calendar will be delivered to you soon. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be added, call (330) 643-8674.

The cover for 2023 was taken at the Hudson Meadows Retirement Community where my parents now live. Their home was full of 50 years of memories and deciding what few things to take was overwhelming. The move was equally hard on me and my brothers. We were also saying goodbye to a home full of wonderful memories. My parents are adjusting and also enjoying new friends, daily activities, meals prepared daily as well as good entertainment.

If you are considering an independent or assisted living facility, ask your family for help to relieve some of the stress. Take a list of questions, tour different places, and research the benefits of each place. Talk to the residents about what they like about their facility.

Most importantly, make sure your new community is safe for walks and enjoying outdoor activities!



My mission as Summit County Prosecutor is to help make our community a safer and better place to live and that includes helping the most vulnerable, our senior citizens. In June 2022, my office launched a "Senior Protection Unit", a specially trained team of prosecutors collaborating with Summit County Adult Protective Services and other local, state and federal organizations to review and prosecute criminal and civil cases involving the abuse of seniors. This unit will enhance our ongoing efforts to hold offenders accountable for crimes against seniors. As a community, we have a responsibility to prevent and report abuse against the elderly. Seniors should not suffer alone in silence.

> My Senior Protection Unit will enhance our efforts to protect Seniors from abuse, neglect and exploitation. We will provide outreach and training programs to better assess elder abuse and hold offenders accountable for crimes against the elderly.

Many times, crimes against seniors involve family members, and therefore go unreported due to shame. I want to change that! My Senior Protection Unit will be the contact for all community partners to address elder abuse issues. The Unit will train law enforcement on how to recognize and charge crimes involving seniors. Outreach and training is also available to the public regarding elder abuse awareness. Our goal is to work with our community to be proactive instead of reactive.

If you would like to receive alerts, newsletters or other safety information, or if you would like me to speak to your group, please contact my office at tfought@prosecutor.summitoh.net or (330) 643-2787.

### SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

Summit County Prosecutor 53 University Ave., 6th Floor Akron, Ohio 44308 (330) 643-2800 Fax: (330) 643-2137

Visit our Senior Safety Website: www.co.summit.oh.us/prosecutor

#### SCAM ALERT!

A Computer Virus Scam is being reported in Summit County. The scam goes like this: you get a message on your computer or a phone call that a virus has been detected and you need to call the toll free number they provide. You will then be asked to send money or gift cards to pay for them to remove the virus. If they call you, hang up! NEVER send gift cards for payment for anything! Shut down your computer and restart it.

#### FACEBOOK QUIZZES

We all love Facebook for catching up with family and friends. We have all received posts to take a fun quiz or personality test where questions may ask for your birthdate, pet's name or mom's maiden name. Be cautious about taking these quizzes as your answers could give a criminal access to your accounts. Even if a friend shares these posts with you, consider who could be viewing your responses.

#### **ELDER ABUSE STATISTICS**

From January through June 2022, my office has indicted 170 cases involving crimes against the elderly. Theft from the elderly remains the highest crime type experienced by victims over the age of 60.

- 96 Theft
- 9 Assault
- 14 Violating a Protection Order
- 14 Identity Fraud
- 14 Domestic Violence

My office also reviewed 60 cases from Adult Protective Services for possible civil filings in Probate Court.

## **Report Elder Abuse**

**Your Reaction** 

Makes a Difference

**24 Hour Sheriff Hotline** 

(330) 643 - 2181

SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## Look for us at these Upcoming Events!

KANDY FATHEREE

August 10, 2022, 11:00am WAKR Senior Lunch St. George Fellowship Church 3204 Ridgewood Rd., Copley

August 11, 2022, 10:00am-4:00pm Soap Box Derby Senior Day 789 Derby Downs Drive, Akron 44306

August 17, 2022, 2:00pm-3:00pm Senior Safety Speech Concordia at Sumner 970 Sumner Pkwy., Copley 44321

September 8, 2022, 10:00am-12:00pm City of Green Senior Expo Raintree Golf & Event Center 4350 Mayfair Road, Uniontown

September 8, 2022, 10:30am-12:30pm Senior Safety Speech AARP Macedonia Seniors Macedonia City Hall 9691 Valley View Road, Macedonia

September 28, 2022, 11:00am-1:30pm Senior Safety Speech Nordonia Seniors 9691Valley View Road, Macedonia

October 6, 2022, 1:00pm-2:00pm Crime Safety Speech Ed Davis Seniors Lawton Street Community Center 1225 Lawton St., Akron 44320

October 18, 2022, 11:45am-12:15pm Senior Safety Speech Barberton Kiwanis First Presbyterian Church 636 W. Park Ave., Barberton