

THE EYE



November 2012

Neighborhood Watch

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Community Services Unit

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HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Santa Cop



Santa Cop was started in 1980 when a handful of Lincoln Police Union members started the program. The idea was to start a program which would help the children of Lincoln who "fell through the cracks" of existing programs. The police officers observed that the children had no control over these events and often went without at this special time of year. That first year 256 children were assisted. The program has since helped 4000 children annually in an effort to keep the magic of Christmas alive for every child.

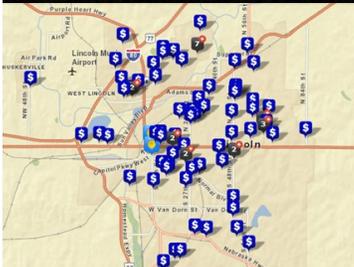
SANTA COP AUCTION:

November 18, 2012
 Downtown Holiday Inn
 141 North 9th Street
 (9th & P Street)
 Silent Auction begins when the doors open at 12:00 p.m.
 Live Auction at 2:30 p.m.
 Proceeds from the auction pay for the toys.

Check out the items up for auction at santacop.org.

CRIMEMAPPING™

Building Safer Communities



Find out what is happening in YOUR neighborhood!!

Cyber Monday, Black Friday, crowded shopping malls, jingling bells, holiday spirit in the air, and, of course, criminals on the prowl. For most, the Holiday Season brings out the best in us but for criminals they simply see opportunities to benefit themselves. We want to make sure everyone arms themselves with the knowledge to prevent becoming a victim this Holiday Season. The following are tips to do just that.



GRINCH

Believe it or not, the Grinch may actually exist. Remember to keep your nicely wrapped presents away from windows and out of sight. It is the practice to put them next to the tree right in front of the window but should a prowler look in that window they would see an opportunity to score some great loot.



HIDE and SEEK

Ordering gifts online may

make Christmas shopping a little easier on you but let's not make it easy for the thieves. When you order online ask the delivery person to put it in a hidden place, behind a bush, in the back yard, under the porch, or any other place out of sight. Anyone can drive down the street and see who had new packages delivered. You can also request that the package be signed for.



SECURED

When making purchases online make sure you are purchasing from a legitimate business with a secured site. On the webpage where you enter your credit card information, look for an 's' after the http in the web address. Also, make sure that there is a tiny closed padlock in the address bar or lower right corner of the window (See Below).



MALL RATS

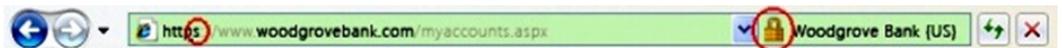
Have a plan before heading

out to go shopping. Park near the entrance or under a light to avoid a dark, secluded vehicle once you are done shopping. Put your packages in the trunk so that no one can see what you have just purchased. Plan to make your biggest purchases last so that you can take them home instead of leaving them in the vehicle for the day. Some of the most expensive items are small like iPods and handheld video games. If you must carry them around make sure to put them in a larger bag so you don't forget them along the way.



SHOW ME THE GOODS

Wait until garbage day to put out all your garbage from the Holidays. Setting out the empty boxes from all the great presents you received only alerts criminals about what is inside the house. Break down the boxes once you do put them out so that it is not so obvious what you received.



HOLIDAY SPIRITS

It sometimes seems like consuming alcohol and holiday parties go hand in hand. Remember to plan ahead when going to parties. Arrange for a designated driver before you leave for the party or plan to have a taxi cab provide transportation for the night. Last year Lincoln Police Officers arrested 213 drunk drivers during December. Make sure that

you are not a part of the problem. If you plan to drink... plan a sober driver. The decision to drink and drive can have lasting effects on the rest of your life or lack there of. Have a safe holiday season. Be smart. **DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!!**

