Recent Scams Use Gift Cards as Payment

Over the past few months, the Springdale Police Department has noted several scams involving the payment of money to a scammer using gift cards. Typically, these scams will originate from a social media site or random call. The caller will tell the victim that they have won cash or been pre-approved for an interest free loan and they just need to pay the taxes. The scammer instructs the victim to purchase gift cards, often from iTunes and send the serial numbers via text or instant message. Of course, they never follow through and the victim is scammed for hundreds if not thousands of dollars.

Another scam the department has seen recently is a caller pretending to be a representative of the energy company. In this scam, the caller claims the victim is behind on their payment and is about to have their electricity turned off. The scammer instructs the victim to purchase gift cards and make the payment again by sending the serial numbers to keep their electricity from being shut off. In this case, a simple call to the local energy company can confirm this prior to sending any money or gift cards.

It sounds hard to believe that anyone could fall for such scams, but these callers are smooth talkers and have fine-tuned their craft. They speak fast and demand decisive action or the deal will be lost. They prey on our sense of greed and offer “something for nothing.” Many have even created websites which tend to make them sound more legitimate.

Before you make the decision to send money or gift card information to anyone, you must ask yourself a few questions.

- Does any legitimate business accept payment in gift cards?
- Does this seem too good to be true?
- Why would anyone want to give me free money?
- If this turns out to be a scam, can I afford to lose this money?

In the end, follow the age-old rule, “If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.”

Here are some tips on what you can do to avoid being caught in a scam. Ask questions! Ask for the person’s name, name of the company, phone numbers, account numbers and any other identifying information. With that information, do a few searches. You can do a simple internet search that will often tell you whether the company or phone number is a scammer. You can contact other agencies such as the Better Business Bureau, Ohio Attorney General, or the Federal Trade Commission to see if they have any helpful information. Of course, you can and should always contact the Springdale Police Department to make a report.

These scammers are hard to catch and the cases are hard to solve. Most of the time they are operating in other parts of the country or even other countries. They use spoof phone numbers and fake social media accounts so as not to be identified. That is why it is best not to fall victim in the first place. Never be in a hurry to send money to someone you don’t know!

Economic Development News

Taqueria El Monarca Grand Opening

Mayor Doyle Webster helped with the ribbon-cutting on June 9th at Taqueria El Monarca at 11449 Princeton Pike. Owner Jonathan Madrigal, a 22-year old Cincinnati native, is excited to share his fresh, authentic, Mexican street-food inspired menu. The restaurant is in the space formerly occupied by Chipotle and features original art murals on the walls. Stop in and try the tacos, burritos, quesadillas, and more!

McDonald’s Showcases Investment in New Technology

Cynthia and Paul Booth recently hosted a VIP Event to highlight renovations and the installation of new technology at their Springdale McDonald’s located at 11723 Princeton Pike. For the convenience of their customers, the restaurant now offers the option of using digital self-order kiosks with table service.
Welcome New Employees!

Alex Marshall
A native of Detroit Michigan, Patrol Officer Alex Marshall began his employment with the City of Springdale Police Department in January 2018. Prior to joining Springdale, Alex served as a Police Officer with the Huntington, West Virginia Police Department for six and a half years. Alex’s transition back to Ohio was spurred by his desire to be closer to his and his wife’s families, and to further his career in a community which he had enjoyed years earlier.

Ben Diesel
Firefighter/Paramedic Benjamin Diesel began his career with the Springdale Fire Department on November 28, 2017. Prior to joining Springdale as a full-time employee, he worked as a part-time firefighter for seven years. Ben is a graduate of Anderson High School. In his free time, he enjoys participating in multiple outdoor activities with friends.

Lisa DellaTorre
Lisa DellaTorre joined the Springdale Police Department as Administrative Secretary in January of this year. Born and raised in Cincinnati, Lisa has over 30 years of office management and bookkeeping experience. In her spare time, she enjoys sports, reading biographies, music, and spending time with her family. “I appreciate the warm welcome I’ve received from all of the Springdale departments and am happy to join the Springdale family”.

Springdale Home Improvement Repair Program
Due to delays in the passage of the Federal Budget, the schedule of the City’s long standing Home Improvement Repair Program had to be altered to correspond to the availability of funding. The City is happy to announce that funds are once again available for this program!

The program provides reimbursement for costs associated with exterior repairs to owner-occupied dwellings. The funds are provided using Community Development Block Grant dollars received from the US Department of Housing And Urban Development. Households below a certain income level are able to make necessary repairs or improvements to their homes under the program. Programs from previous years have shown that the extra funding has often been just enough to allow repairs or improvement projects to become a reality. This opportunity has been a win-win for the homeowner, their neighborhood, and the entire Springdale community. Maintaining and improving one’s property not only increases the owner’s property values, but it also enhances the values of the entire community.

Eligible applicants must meet the required income guidelines. For example, the income eligibility during 2018 for a household of 4 is a maximum income of $62,650. Eligible repairs or improvements may not include pools, spas, landscaping, play equipment or new detached accessory structures. Applications are currently being accepted and will continue to be processed on a first come, first served basis, until all funding is exhausted.

For more information on the program, please visit the City’s website at www.springdale.org and click on the Building Department link or call the Building Department at 513-346-5730.

2018 Spring Sports Camp
The Springdale Health Department, Parks and Recreation Department, and Police Department collaborated with the Vineyard Church, Humana, and Princeton City Schools to provide the 2018 Spring Sports Camp at Heritage Hill Elementary School from March 26 through March 29, 2018. Additional sponsors included Sam’s Club, Target, Kroger, Chick-fil-A, Chipotle, Chili’s, and Dunkin Donuts.

Hundreds of children from both Heritage Hill and Springdale Elementary Schools attended the sports camp, along with over 200 community members serving as event volunteers. Cincinnati Bengals Hall of Famer Anthony Munoz, the Cincinnati Bengals Mascot, ‘Who Dey’, Athletes-In-Action, and the Chick-fil-A Cow visited the sports camp during the week. Special thanks goes to Omar Cummings of FC Cincinnati and Tommy Adams of the NBA for spending the entire week inspiring the children through sports.

Thanks to the Vineyard’s Healing Center, La Vina Church, the Southwest Ohio Latino Coalition, the Healthcare Connection, Su Casa, Prevention First, and the Willows Family Resource Center for providing information to Springdale families through a workshop series that was held during the sports camp.
**Take Precautions Against Extreme Heat**

The City of Springdale Health Department reminds residents to take precautions to protect their families from heat related illnesses:

- Drink plenty of fluids while outdoors to avoid the risk of dehydration. Don’t wait until you are thirsty to drink.

- During heavy exercise or work in a hot environment, drink two to four glasses each hour.

- Avoid beverages that contain alcohol or caffeine, because they can add to dehydration and increase the effects of heat illnesses.

- Take breaks as needed in air conditioning to prevent heat exhaustion.

- Friends and neighbors are urged to periodically check on the elderly and those with illnesses, since they are among those at highest risk for heat-related problems.

- Children or animals left inside a vehicle are at risk for serious heat-related illnesses or even death. To remind yourself that a child is in the car, place bags, phones or other items you will take with you in the back seat. This will force you to turn around before exiting the car.

- Limit the risk of sunburn and skin cancer by wearing sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30. Reapply often during extended periods of exposure.

Warning signs of heat exhaustion include fatigue, nausea, headache, excessive thirst, muscle aches, cramps, weakness, confusion, anxiety, drenching sweats, slowed heartbeat, dizziness, agitation, and fainting. If an individual begins to show signs of heat exhaustion, move to an air conditioned area, provide water, apply wet cloths and call 911 for emergency medical assistance.

For more information about promoting warm weather health and safety, please visit the CDC’s website: http://www.cdc.gov.

**Practice Can Save Lives...**

Your child’s school practices fire drills between six and nine times a school year. Each time they practice the drill they are being trained on what to do and where to go when an emergency happens. Over time it becomes a natural response to exit, where to go and what to do. Since your children spend more time at home than they do at school, don’t you think it is more important to practice these drills at home on a regular basis? Be prepared for a fire and know what to do if this unfortunate event were to happen at your home.

**Home Fire Escape Drill:**

Every household should practice the Home Fire Escape Drill. If a fire should occur, this drill can help you and your family escape. The Home Fire Escape Drill is designed to help families practice two escape routes out of the house if a fire should occur. Planning and practicing two escape routes – one normal route through hallways and stairways; and an alternative route through windows or onto the roof – could help save the lives of you and your family. The alternative escape route is vital because most home fires start in areas of the house that may block the usual hallway and stairway exit routes. Please join the State Fire Marshal’s office and the Springfield Fire Department in helping to save lives by practicing this Home Fire Escape Drill with your family. Remember, in an actual fire: Once outside, never re-enter the house. Call the Fire Department from a neighbor’s house.

**Draw Your Escape Plan:**

Draw an outline of your home, identify each room and label them. Locate windows, doors, hallways and stairways. Draw black arrows to show the normal escape route through hallways and stairways. Draw red arrows to mark an alternative escape route in case the fire blocks exits through hallways and stairways.

**Practice Your Plan:**

Each time you practice the Home Fire Escape Drill you should practice it twice, once using the normal exits and once using the alternative route. Close all of the bedroom doors. Set off the smoke detector by pushing the test button. Family members should sound their own alarm at the first sign of fire. Yelling or pounding on walls are examples. Always test the doors for heat before opening. Sweep your hand over the upper portion of the door to feel for heat. If the door is hot or warm, do not open it. Instead use your alternative route. If the door does not feel hot to the touch, open the door a crack to see if there is smoke. If there is no smoke, exit the house. If you find heavy smoke, close the door and use your alternative escape route. Go to the designated meeting place outside.
Springdale Citizens Police Academy

The Springdale Police Department will be hosting its 7th Citizens Police Academy beginning September 10th, 2018. The Citizens Police Academy is an 8-week program designed to give participants a working knowledge of the Springdale Police Department. It consists of a series of classes and discussions held once a week on Monday night from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The class size is limited to approximately 15 students. There is no cost to enroll and attend the academy. The next class will start September 10, 2018 and will graduate October 29, 2018.

The program will provide information to the citizens who attend so they may make informed judgments about the Springdale Police Department, other Law Enforcement Agencies, and police activity. Understanding more about what the Police Department does can help to dispel suspicions and misconceptions, while increasing police/community rapport through this educational process. The Police Department, in turn, becomes more aware of the feelings and concerns of the community through input from the students. This will help to establish open lines of communication and cooperation to work toward the shared goal of providing the best police service for the citizens of Springdale. It is the Springdale Police Department’s hope that the Citizens Police Academy graduates will partner with the department to identify problems and explore solutions to the issues that may be affecting the Springdale community.

Keep Grass Clippings Out of the Street and Off of Sidewalks

As you continue to mow your lawn this summer, the City of Springdale reminds you to keep your grass clippings on your lawn, off the sidewalks, and out of the street.

Grass clippings can cause multiple problems:

- Can clog storm sewers and drywells
- Will negatively impact local streams and waterways
- Are dangerous for motorists and bicyclists
- Cause an inconvenience for pedestrians, senior citizens and those who have physical disabilities and/or who may be confined to wheelchairs or other types of assistance equipment

Make your property look unkempt
- Can harm property values and upset your neighbors

Please try to avoid these issues by properly bagging and disposing of your clippings or by sweeping your clippings back into your yard where they will compost.
Springdale Garden Club News

The Springdale Garden Club had a busy and rewarding Spring. They hosted the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs Amateur Flower Show at the Springdale Community Center on May 19-20. It was a great turnout for the event. There were 39 horticulture division classes and 8 artistic division classes. Several of the Club members received awards for their Artistic and Horticulture entries. The Garden Club was pleased to report that the Indoor Growers Award went to club member Marguerite Murtaugh and the Best of Show to member Ada Perkins. In addition, the Springdale first graders entered a Story Book Garden and received a blue ribbon. The members of the Garden Club appreciate the support received from the community during the two days of the show.

Up next for the Garden Club, they will hold a Salad Supper on August 13. At that event, they will be planning this year’s schedule of events, choosing committees, and electing their officers. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Springdale Garden Club, this meeting might be a good one to attend and learn more about the Club.

The Garden Club plans to continue to support the Springdale ComeUnity Bash with a booth on Saturday, September 8. The Club plans to have on hand at their booth: popcorn, juice boxes, hot chocolate, hot or cold tea, and coffee (depending on the weather). Also there will be a Fall Planter to be raffled off with chances to buy a member-made Fall Planter for your porch. Pictures of the gardens that were winners in the Amateur Garden Awards Contest for 2018 will be on display.

The Garden Club would love to continue the Amateur Garden Award efforts; however, they are in need of the community’s help. Please provide a nomination for the award. You can nominate yourself or even your neighbor. The Garden Club needs the community to serve as their eyes and ears to identify potential entrants for next year.

For information about the Springdale Garden Club events, contact Joan Knox @ 674-7755, e-mail, joanknox99@fuse.net.

Food Poisoning Risks

The City of Springdale Health Department wants to remind residents about the risk of food poisoning; 1 in 6 people get sick from eating contaminated food annually in the U.S. Since it is summertime, picnics and cookouts are happening all around. The department wants to make sure you, your friends, and family stay safe with these food preparation and storage tips.

- Clean your surfaces often while cooking, as well as washing your hands. Wash fresh fruits and vegetables; avoid unwashed produce.
- Separate foods, such as raw meats from fresh vegetables to avoid cross contamination.
- Cook your food to the appropriate temperatures; raw foods are more likely to be contaminated, especially raw meat and poultry, eggs, milk, and shellfish.
- Refrigerate leftovers no more than 2 hours after preparation; keeping them in a cold environment prevents bacteria growth.

The most common symptoms of food poisoning include: Upset stomach, stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever. Most people have only mild illnesses, lasting a few hours to several days; some people need to be hospitalized. Those at high risk for severe food poisoning are: adults aged 65 and older, children, pregnant women, and people with weak immune systems.

Information adopted from http://www.cdc.gov please visit website for more information.
Swim event.
fee of $3.00. Pool will close directly after Goldfish have a pool membership or pay the regular gate hands. Everyone that enters the pool area must children under 12 years of age, with their bare hands. All fish must be caught by them all? Remember, no nets, buckets or help Community Center pool! Who will help us catch friends are back swimming in the water of the Spring and Dale along with 1,000 of their fishy Sunday, August 12 • 2:00pm Goldfish Swim Registration September 1 - September 30 • $40 ($55 beginning 10/1). Youth & Teen Volleyball Youth and teens in grades 3-8 Saturday, October 6 • 6:00 - 8:00pm Scavenger Hunt and Bonfire SCC members and their guests in grades 5-8 are invited to join us for an evening of fun, solving clues and eating smores. Watch for more information at the Community Center. Pre-Registration is required. • ΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛLambda is a community-based volunteer organization that provides organized activities and events for local youth. Activities are diverse and provide fun social interaction. Membership is for Springdale residents grades 5-8. There is a $10 sign-up fee. For information, call 346-3910 or email Rsmith@springdale.org. (SCC) may register beginning September 1. Springdale Community Center Members (SCC) may register beginning September 1. SCC Activity membership requirement waived for residents participating in youth sports for their first time. Late registrations may be subject to additional charges (Non-resident fee is an additional $25 per child if space is available). Youth sports fees must be paid with cash or check. No credit card accepted. Instructional Basketball Children in kindergarten and 1st grade Registration September 1 - September 30 • $20 ($35 beginning 10/1). Basketball Youth and teens in grades 2-12 Registration September 1 - September 30 • $40 ($55 beginning 10/1). Cheerleading Youth in grades 1-5 Registration September 1 - September 30 • $20 ($35 beginning 10/1). Cheerleading Youth in grades 1-5 Registration September 1 - September 30 • $20 ($35 beginning 10/1). Springdale Youth Boosters The Springdale Youth Boosters group is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization comprised of Springdale residents working together to secure donations that help provide more affordable youth sports programs in Springdale. To join, contact: Springdaleyouthbooster@yahoo.com. The Scoop is a bimonthly adult/senior newsletter comprised of two months of fun, educational programs, and activities planned to keep you engaged. Mailing is by subscription to active members age 55 and older. If you wish to receive the Scoop, call the Springdale Community Center (346-3910) and request to be added to our subscription list. The Scoop is a bimonthly adult/senior newsletter with two months of fun, educational programs, and activities planned to keep you engaged. Mailing is by subscription to active members age 55 and older. If you wish to receive the Scoop, call the Springdale Community Center (346-3910) and request to be added to our subscription list. Active Aging Week September 24 - 28 Active Aging Week is back! Join us as we celebrate active adults ages 50 and older and promote the benefits of leading an active, healthier lifestyle. Attend the Orientation session on Monday, September 24 at 11:30 a.m. to hear the ins and outs of all the activities we have planned for the week. Once we begin, your week will be packed full of eventful sessions to keep you busy. We finish Active Aging Week with a social where everyone is invited to enjoy games, give-a-ways, activities, and light appetizers. It's going to be a fun, educational, fit week!
SPECIAL EVENTS

Neighborhood Yard Sales
Saturday, August 11 • 9:00am - 2:00pm
Clean out the garage, attic and basement while earning some cash during this year’s Neighborhood Yard Sales. The best part of all, the sale is right at YOUR house. The City of Springdale will widely publicize the community-wide event with suggested hours from 9am to 2pm. Take advantage of the extra traffic of buyers who will cruise Springdale looking for your bargains!

Shred Sensitive Documents
Saturday, August 18 • 10:00am - 1:00pm
A mobile shredding unit will be on site at the Community Center on Saturday, August 18 from 10am - 1pm so that residents may safely destroy their unwanted sensitive documents and records. This is an opportunity to dispose of those old financial and medical records, past bank statements and other documents which you would not feel comfortable throwing away in the trash. All material will be shredded on site and recycled.

Junior Olympics
Saturday, August 25 • 10:00 - 11:30am
Children ages 10 and under will compete in 8 fun events, enjoy live entertainment, door prizes and an awards ceremony. This event will be held on the Community Center grounds. Registration begins August 1.

Movie in the Park
Friday, September 21: Movie begins approximately at 7:30pm
Enjoy a beautiful fall evening outside. Springdale Youth Boosters will be holding their 2nd annual movie in the park in the amphitheater. The movie will be child and family friendly.

Father - Daughter Dance
Saturday, October 20 • 6:00 - 8:00pm
Fathers and their daughters will enjoy music, dancing, food; and of course, making memories. Tickets will go on sale October 1 at the Springdale Community Center.

Monster Mania VI: The Monster Squad
Saturday, October 27 • 2:00 - 4:00pm
Come down and visit the Community Center for our sixth annual Monster Mania. Kids ages 2 through fourth grade will enjoy Halloween games, activities, treats, haunted room tours and a costume contest. Registration begins October 1.

Skills & Drills Basketball Clinic
Saturday, November 10 • 10:00am - 12:00pm
This fun clinic will run players through various fundamental drills to improve their technique and skills. Participants must be 7-12 years of age. Registration runs October 21 to November 13. Pre-Registration is required, space is limited.

Veterans Day Ceremony
Monday, November 12
Springdale Veteran’s Memorial
In honor of those who have defended freedom, many paying the supreme sacrifice, Springdale will present a special ceremony in commemoration of Veteran’s Day. Parking is available at the Municipal Complex. Groups interested in participating in this year’s tribute should contact Matt Beaty at mbeaty@springdale.org. Time and details to be announced.

Tree Lighting Ceremony
Monday, November 26 • 7:00pm
The tree at Springdale’s Municipal Building will be illuminated, officially beginning the holiday season in Springdale. Springdale Elementary students will sing carols with a visit from Santa, and refreshments to follow. The public is invited to this free event.

HEALTH & FITNESS CLASSES

- Barre Fit
- Butts’n Guts
- Cardio Kickboxing
- Hip-Hop Redefined
- Jazzercise
- L.I.F.E. (Low impact functional exercise)
- Line Dance
- Silver Sneakers Flex
- Red Cross classes
- Slimnastics
- Tai Chi

*Please see our website for class descriptions, schedules and fees.

Food, Fun & Entertainment
3:00 - 9:00pm
There will be a series of three local bands performing in the amphitheater with music to appeal to a wide range of taste. At 3:00pm, one of the area’s most popular country bands, The Dan Varner Band will take the stage. The Dan Varner Band characterizes their music as traditional country, meets newer country, mixed with a little bit of rock and roll. Beginning at 5:00pm, The Remains cover band will hit you with decades of high-energy popular classics from the 60’s, 70’s, 80’s through today’s current music. 2nd Wind will take the stage at 7:30pm. 2nd Wind is one of the most sought after bands in the area, providing a concert level performance. They offer Smooth Jazz, R & B, Pop, classic Rock and Funk. The Cincinnati Circus will present their amazing Big Show with performances scheduled for 4:30pm and 6:30pm. Each show will provide you with comedy, juggling, magic, aerial acrobatics, flying trapeze and more! There will be an abundance of other family friendly activities throughout the afternoon and evening, including a climbing wall, petting zoo and games for all ages, all free of charge. In addition, at 5:30pm, the Springdale Youth Boosters will be holding a cornhole tournament fundraiser to help make youth sports more affordable in Springdale. Our local service groups and organizations will have food and refreshments available for purchase. So come out and enjoy this year’s ComeUnity Bash!
Free Diabetes Workshop
Thursdays • 12:00 - 2:30pm
October 11 - November 15, 2018
Springdale Community Center
11999 Lawnview Avenue
This workshop will be held once a week to address problems common to persons with diabetes. To register call the Springdale Health Department at 346-5725.

Annual Health Fair
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 • 12:00 - 2:00pm
Springdale Community Center
11999 Lawnview Avenue
Services offered are: adult flu vaccinations for $25, free vaccinations for children, free blood pressure checks, free hearing screening, free diabetes screening, and free BMI (body mass index) screening. To register call the Springdale Health Department at 346-5725.