

OPINION

Tell someone

Con artists aren't shy about taking your hard-earned money. These charlatans spend their time trolling for an easy buck rather than making an honest living, tricking people who don't know better into handing over their savings.

Identity theft accounts for a lot of calls to police. As a result, police urge the public to report lost or stolen wallets and valuables, and to shred documents containing personal, financial or sensitive information when disposing of them.

Internet fraud makes up about 20 per cent of fraud-related investigations. Common online schemes include the "apartment rental scam", the "internet dating scam", "online auction fraud", and the "computer virus scam".

If you find you have been ripped off, report it to authorities — keeping it a secret only makes it easier for fraudsters to defraud more victims.

To report a monetary loss due to a fraud, call the police and let them know what happened to you. Chances are you're not the first, or last, if no one comes forward.

You can also contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (1-888-495-8501, info@antifraudcentre.ca).

You should also advise all financial institutions and companies where you have accounts, such as your phone or cable provider, about the fraud.

WEB POLL RESULTS

(Go to www.theifp.ca)

As the Spring season officially begins, what will you remember most about the Winter of 2013-2014?

- The December ice storm (63%)
- The seemingly unending winter (32%)
- More than usual snowfall (3%)
- The polar vortexes (2%)

The Independent & Free Press

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Letters to the editor

Hospital needs the right tools

Dear editor,

I have just finished reading another glowing article patting ourselves on the back about the hospital expansion.

I wish I could join in the chorus but unfortunately I can't.

My wife, who has since died, was on the list for a lung transplant.

She woke up early one morning in severe pain.

She said she thought one of her lungs had collapsed and it turned out she was right. Because of the inflexible EMS system in Ontario she could not go to Toronto General so she was taken to Georgetown.

The doctor in Emergency agreed it was a collapsed lung but said he couldn't insert a tube until he was assisted by an anesthetist.

Unfortunately there wasn't one available so they had to call one in. Almost one hour later he arrived, complete with a Tim Hortons coffee.

The procedure was performed but when my wife started to bloat up they

called for the Ornge helicopter and its team repositioned the tube so that it was correctly placed before making the 20-minute flight to Toronto.

My wife didn't die because of this incident but it sure didn't help.

The only point I am trying to make is that unless we have the staff and skills available, this wonderful new facility will never live up to its potential so there had better be some additional funding for the soft side of the equation.

Paul Skinner,
Georgetown

Thoughtless driver killed cat

Dear editor,

To the person who hit and killed my black and white cat on Prince Charles Drive between 9:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Monday, March 17.

Your thoughtlessness has caused me and my family a world of sorrow.

The street is not the Indy 500. Your small black vehicle was traveling in excess of the speed

limit posted for a residential area. Pablo was a family pet and will be greatly missed.

So to all the motorists who travel our residential streets, please slow down and be aware of your surroundings cause there are family pets and children on those streets.

To the young man who witnessed this devastating event I would like to thank you for your kindness in removing Pablo from the middle of the street.

To the driver of that car, God has a way to pay back.

Please residents of Georgetown slow down cause next time this could be your story.

Penny Parker,
Georgetown

Letters policy

Letters must include the author's name, address and daytime phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 150 words and may be edited for content and/or length. Publication is not guaranteed.

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