

Mayor Kurtz's SwiftReach for Apr 1, 2022 FINAL

HELLO. IT IS APRIL 1ST. PLEASE STAND BY FOR A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR. IT WILL REPEAT ONCE

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING, NEIGHBORS. THIS IS YOUR MAYOR GREG KURTZ.

IT WAS SUNNY AND 80-DEGREES TODAY – OKAY, IT'S APRIL FOOL'S DAY. BUT BEING OPTIMISTIC, SOME TIME SOON IT WILL BE.

ON A MORE SERIOUS NOTE, I HAVE A QUESTION -- HAVE YOU BEEN GETTING SUSPICIOUS CALLS, EMAILS, OR TEXTS LATELY? YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

SCAMMERS ARE AT IT AGAIN THIS TAX SEASON POSING AS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THEIR GOAL IS TO STEAL MONEY **AND** PERSONAL INFORMATION.

SOME THIEVES HAVE EVEN FIGURED OUT HOW TO MAKE A TEXT MESSAGE LOOK LIKE IT IS COMING FROM A PERSON'S OWN PHONE NUMBER. I KNOW, IT HAS HAPPENED TO ME.

CYBERSECURITY EXPERTS SAY IF YOU GET A CALL OR TEXT FROM AN UNKNOWN NUMBER, IGNORE IT. IF IT IS LEGITIMATE, THEY WILL LEAVE A VOICEMAIL OR TRY YOU AGAIN.

NEXT, DO **NOT CLICK LINKS OR OPEN ATTACHMENTS IF YOU ARE NOT CERTAIN** OF THE SENDER. THESE CAN OFTEN INFECT YOUR PHONE OR COMPUTER WITH MALWARE.

AND REMEMBER -- IF THE IRS, SOCIAL SECURITY OR ANOTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY NEED TO REACH YOU, THEY WILL SEND YOU CORRESPONDENCE THROUGH THE MAIL. **THEY WILL NOT CALL OR TEXT YOU WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION.**

THERE IS MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW THESE SCAMMERS OPERATE IN MY WEEKLY UPDATE ON THE WEBSITE.

OH, AND REMEMBER THE INDEPENDENCE KIWANIS CLUB AND THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT WILL BE HOLDING THEIR SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE AT THE FIELDHOUSE ON SATURDAY FROM 9 AM TO 2 PM. HAPPY SHOPPING!

UNTIL NEXT WEEK, BE WELL, AND AS ALWAYS, GOD BLESS