



## **HAPPY FALL TO EVERYONE!**

**We just wanted to wish all of our Neighborhood Watch Partners a very happy start to the fall season. We hope that things in your area are quiet and will remain that way.**

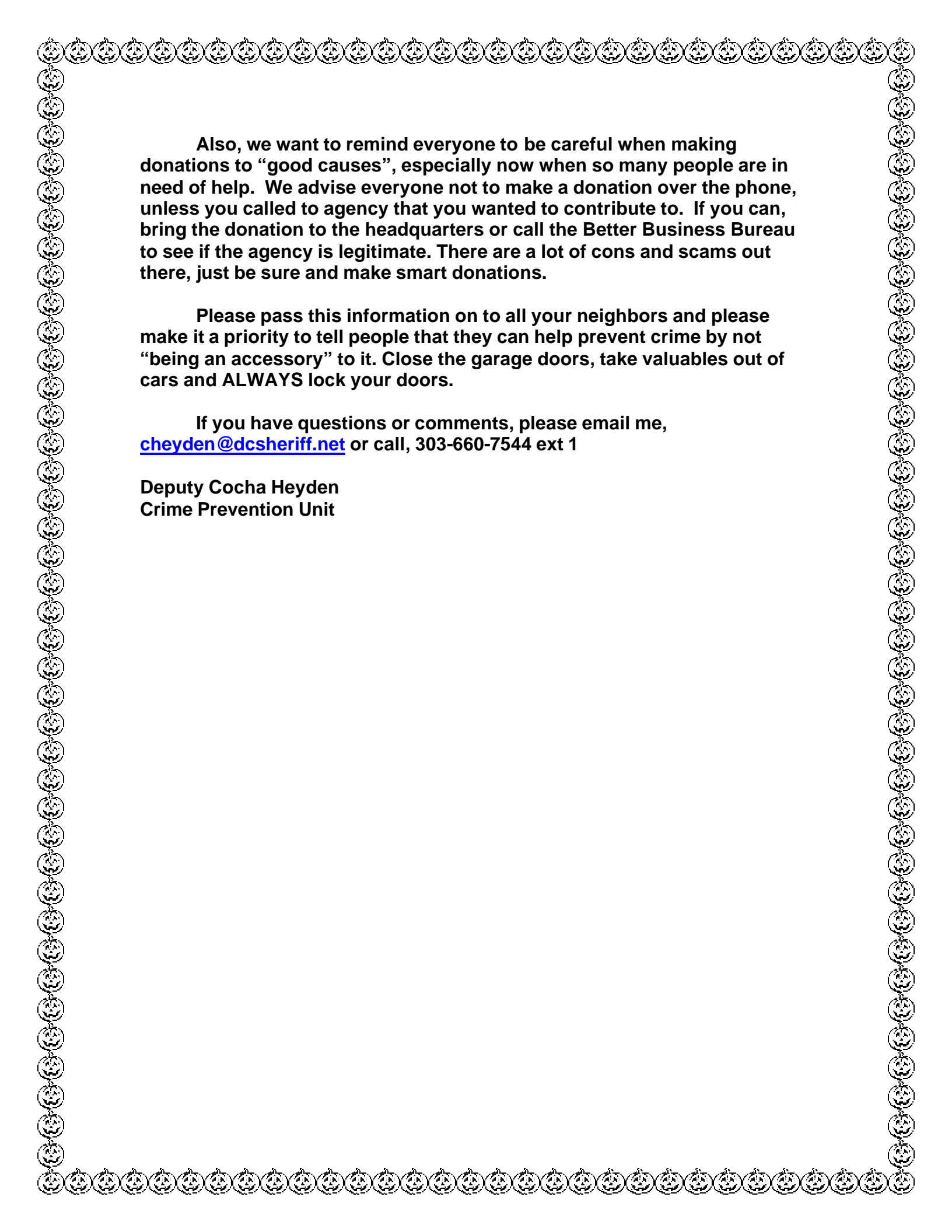
**We wanted to remind everyone how important Neighborhood Watch is during the fall and winter months. We tend to become housebound during the colder seasons, but crime does not necessarily take a break during the winter. Remember that potential criminals look for those people who put crime prevention on hold during this season. Be a helpful neighbor and remind others around you to take extra precautions during these cold months.**

**\*\*\*\*Alert\*\*\*\***

**Over the past few weeks we have seen a particular crime that is very disturbing, and has happened in multiple places. The suspect goes door to door in your neighborhood, "looking for his lost dog, that belongs to his daughter", but investigators believe this is just a ploy to find out what homeowners are not home. In the area that he has been spotted, there have been homes that were broken into. We believe he is making entry through basement windows where there are no window well covers. He has been described as a white male, driving a dark SUV. Please call the sheriff's office right away if you spot this person.**

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**Auto theft and Criminal Trespass are still present in Douglas County. Taking some simple precautionary steps could have prevented most of these crimes. The biggest step would be to close your garage door. If a neighbor's garage door is open late at night or at a time when it would not normally be open, give them a call. Hopefully, they would do the same to you. We still see a lot of people leaving their keys in their cars with the garage door open. Remember this is an open invitation for thieves to take your belongings. When these thieves steal your purses or wallets, that contain your identity information, it could lead to identity theft. We have also had a few incidents where the burglars take it one step further and enter your home through the unlocked door between your garage and your house. Keep those exterior doors locked. It is also helpful to do a door and window check before going to bed. This may save you a lot of trouble in the morning.**



**Also, we want to remind everyone to be careful when making donations to “good causes”, especially now when so many people are in need of help. We advise everyone not to make a donation over the phone, unless you called to agency that you wanted to contribute to. If you can, bring the donation to the headquarters or call the Better Business Bureau to see if the agency is legitimate. There are a lot of cons and scams out there, just be sure and make smart donations.**

**Please pass this information on to all your neighbors and please make it a priority to tell people that they can help prevent crime by not “being an accessory” to it. Close the garage doors, take valuables out of cars and ALWAYS lock your doors.**

**If you have questions or comments, please email me, [cheyden@dcsheriff.net](mailto:cheyden@dcsheriff.net) or call, 303-660-7544 ext 1**

**Deputy Cocha Heyden  
Crime Prevention Unit**