



# TECHNOLOGY TIMES

*"Insider Tips To Make Your Department Run Faster, Easier and More Efficiently"*

## Is Your Department's Data at Risk?

In a December 2014 survey by the National Small Business Association, 61% of small businesses reported being victims of a cybercrime within the past 12 months. Although this survey consists of small businesses and not Police Departments, it is still very important information that everyone should be aware of.

The average cost to recover from a cyber-attack skyrocketed from \$8,699 per attack in 2013 to \$20,752 per attack in 2014. And, of the businesses targeted, 68% said they'd been hacked more than once.

Experts agree, as cybercrooks become ever more sophisticated, the threat to small businesses is going to get worse before it gets better...

So what can you do to beat the bad guys?

Here are three common ploys used by hackers – and how you can fend them off:

**Phishing** – A really legitimate-looking e-mail urges you to click a link or open a file that triggers a malware installation on your computer.

**Best Defense:** Don't let anyone in office open files or click links in an e-mail unless they're certain who it came from.

**Cracking Your Password** – Hackers can run programs 24/7 testing password combinations. The easier your password is to guess, the more likely it is they'll crack it.

**Best Defense:** Consider using a password manager that generates and stores tough-to-crack passwords. For extra security, use unique passphrases for financial accounts.

**Drive-By Download** – You visit what appears to be an innocent site; yet when you click, your device gets hacked – and you may never know it, until it's too late.

**Best Defense:** Make sure your browser is up-to-date, or use one that updates automatically, such as Firefox or Chrome. Internet Explorer users have been found to be most vulnerable to these attacks.

Unfortunately, these three examples are just a small sampling of the dozens of ever more ingenious ways cybercriminals are breaking down the doors and destroying unprepared businesses.

**Let us help!** Through September 30, call our office and receive a FREE 15-Point Cyber-Security Audit to uncover gaps in your department's online security.

Our highly trained team of IT pros will come to your office and conduct this comprehensive audit. We'll then prepare a customized "Report Of Findings" that reveals specific vulnerabilities and a Prioritized Plan Of Attack for getting any problems addressed fast.

To take advantage of this limited-time offer, just call our office at 973-560-9050 to schedule yours today.



"As a Police Chief, you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That's where we shine! Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!"

- Shawn Butt  
Police IT Support

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Whippany, NJ

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## Why You Should Avoid Using A Debit Card When Shopping Online

If you shop online (and these days, who doesn't?), you'll want to make sure you use a credit card instead of a debit card to protect yourself from online scams and rip offs. The biggest advantage credit cards offer is a buffer for payment. By law, your maximum loss if your credit card number is stolen is \$50, and most credit card companies and banks will cover the entire cost.

When you use a debit card, the funds come directly out of your bank account, which means you might have trouble disputing the charge if you get scammed or if you are not happy with the product or service you purchased. Here are some other tips to make shopping online safer:

- Research your merchant before buying. The Federal Trade Commission maintains a web site ([www.consumer.gov](http://www.consumer.gov)) that provides many buyers' guides, lists of tips, and links to helpful resources.
- Make sure you are on a secure web site before you give your name, address or credit card details. Look for a padlock or a key symbol in the bottom corner of your screen.
- Never send your credit card number in an e-mail because it can easily be stolen.
- Frequently check your credit card statements for suspicious entries. If you spot anything strange, contact your credit card company immediately to question the charge.
- Call the company before placing an order. See if a real person answers the phone and how difficult it is to get someone live. Ask for their return policy for damaged or inadequate goods, expected delivery dates, shipping and handling fees, and after-purchase support.
- Think before you buy. If the online advertisement or junk e-mail offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is! If you have any reason to be suspicious, you are better to err on the side of NOT buying.
- Watch for hidden extras added on at checkout such as postage and packing costs, and handling fees. VAT and Customs charges for goods from overseas can add greatly to the final cost. Read the company's privacy policy carefully. Make sure you uncheck any boxes giving the vendor permission to sell or share your information with other vendors.
- Read the Company's privacy policy carefully. Make sure you uncheck any boxes giving the vendor permission to sell or share your information with other vendors.

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## Help Us Out And We'll Give You A Brand-New iPod For Your Trouble



We've decided to hold a special "refer a friend" event during the month of September!

Simply refer any company with 10 or more computers to our office to receive a FREE Computer Network Assessment (a \$397 value). Once we've completed our initial appointment with your referral, we'll rush YOU a free iPod Nano of your choice as a thank-you (or donate \$100 to your favorite charity ... your choice!). Simply call us at 973-560-9050 or e-mail us at [Shawn.Butt@policeitsupport.org](mailto:Shawn.Butt@policeitsupport.org) with your referral's name and contact information today!

## ***Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:***



### **Nest Cam: Keeping An Eye On Things While You're Away**

Have you ever worried about what's happening at home when you're away? The Nest Cam can keep you informed. This wide-angle camera streams sound and video to your smartphone. It will even warn you about any unusual activity.

If the Nest Cam detects sudden movement or loud noises, it instantly alerts you by phone. The video feed lets you see what's happening and even scold kids, pets or burglars through a speaker.

This product integrates with other Nest equipment. For example, smart smoke alarms can activate the Nest Cam. It also saves alerts and footage in a convenient archive. The camera even makes it easy to share fun video clips online.

If you already have WiFi, setup is a breeze. This gadget comes with a stand that lets you put it on any flat surface. It also sticks to metal objects or screws onto a regular camera tripod.

## **10 Ideas You Need If You Want to Succeed**

1. Do what you need to do now so you will eventually get to do what you want to do later.
2. Discipline is the ability to get things done regardless of how you feel about doing them.
3. Passion only pays off when channeled into productive effort.
4. Others may believe in you, help you and support you, but ultimately nobody will do it for you. You are responsible for your own life.
5. If you don't do your job any differently than anybody else who does it, you won't get paid more than anybody else.
6. More often than not, you succeed in spite of not because of your circumstances.
7. If you think a little better and work a little harder you will always accomplish more than others.
8. If you can't control it, get over it.
9. If you don't appreciate where you are at, you won't appreciate where you are going.
10. Get clear on what really matters to you and then get busy pursuing it.

If you want more insights into how to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary, go to Mark's site at [www.marksanborn.com](http://www.marksanborn.com)



**Mark Sanborn, CSP, CPAE**, is president of Sanborn & Associates, Inc., an idea studio dedicated to developing leaders in business and in life. Mark is an international bestselling author and noted authority on leadership, team building, customer service and change. Mark is the author of eight books, including the bestseller *The Fred Factor: How Passion In Your Work and Life Can Turn the Ordinary Into the Extraordinary* which has sold more than 1.6 million copies internationally. Learn more about Mark at [www.marksanborn.com](http://www.marksanborn.com)

## 20 Signs That Your Life is Going Too Hi-Tech

1. You try to enter your password on the microwave
2. You have 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
3. You consider "mouse elbow" a sports injury.
4. Your daughter is selling Girl Scout Cookies on her Web site.
5. The concept of using real money is becoming foreign to you.
6. Cleaning up the dining area means getting the fast food bags out of the back seat of your car.
7. The only jokes you "hear" come by e-mail.
8. Your cereal box says, "visit us online", and you do.
9. You consider 2nd day air delivery painfully slow.
10. The reason you don't keep in touch with some of your family: They don't have e-mail addresses.
11. You chat with a stranger from South Africa, but you haven't spoken to your next door neighbor in more than a year.
12. The computer you bought last week is now outdated and selling for half price.
13. You instant message your son in his room saying dinner is ready. He replied back to ask what you're having.
14. You consider naming your daughter "Dot" and your son "Com."
15. You order take-out food online.
16. Your family pet runs on batteries.
17. You can have more meaningful conversations with your car than your spouse.
18. You start calling telemarketers "spammers".
19. You've never actually met your spouse in person.
20. You can turn your lights on, open the garage door, turn up your stereo, and see your back yard without leaving your computer.

## Who Else Wants To Win A \$25 Gift Card?

Last month's trivia question was: **What is the hottest place on earth: a.) Wadi Halfa, Sudan, b) Death Valley, California, c) Tirat Tsvi, Israel, d) Timbuktu, Mali**

The correct answer was **b) Death Valley, California**

Now, here's this month's trivia question. The winner will receive a \$30 Amazon Gift Card.

You can also choose to have your prize donated to a local charity of your choosing.

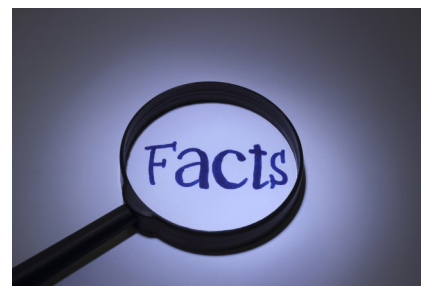
**What were the first featured menu items at McDonald's?**

- |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| a) Hamburgers                | b) Hot Dogs |
| c) Grilled Cheese Sandwiches | d) Tacos    |

*Call us right now with your answer!*  
**973-560-9050**

## The Lighter Side:

## IT Fun Facts



Technology has forever changed our lives and our world more than you know. Here are some numbers to put that fact into perspective:

1. About 4 billion people worldwide own a mobile phone, but only 3.5 billion people own a toothbrush.
2. Computers and other electronics account for 220,000 tons of annual trash in the U.S. alone.
3. About 300 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube every minute.
4. Around 100 billion e-mails traverse the Internet every day, and about 95% of those messages go straight to spam folders.
5. The annual amount of electricity it takes for Google to handle a billion search queries every day is around 15 billion kWh, which is more than most countries consume.
6. About 500 new mobile games appear on the Apple App Store each day.
7. The "father of information theory," Claude Shannon, invented the digital circuit at age 21 while he was in college.
8. Regular computer users blink only half as often as non-users.
9. Over 1 million children can say their parents met on Match.com