

# Minnesota Triad



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“Seniors, Law Enforcement and  
Community Groups working together  
for Senior Safety...  
*throughout the State!*”

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MN Sheriffs' Association

Click on “Sheriff’s in the Community”  
and then on Triad.

Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/mntriad](http://www.facebook.com/mntriad)

*A great place to share senior safety  
information from throughout the  
state.*



## WELCOME ....

to the MN Triad Newsletter  
that is by Triad members  
for Triad members and anyone interested  
in senior safety issues.

**We want to hear from you!**

Please forward any ideas, concerns, current  
fraud schemes, along with what you are  
doing in your Triad programs (including  
pictures) to us so we can share throughout  
the state.

We like to “meet” Triad members throughout  
the state in our Featured Members column.  
We also like to share recipes from Triad  
members throughout the state.

Any information you would like to share can  
be sent to [triadmn@gmail.com](mailto:triadmn@gmail.com).

*Thank you for making this newsletter the  
best that it can be!*

## MN Triad Conferences

### 2022 Scam Jam

This year, we will be collaborating with  
AARP & BBB on this yearly event  
(In person and Zoom)

### Mark Your Calendars

Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022  
Inwood Oaks Event Center  
484 Inwood Ave N  
Oakdale MN 55128

*More details will follow with  
registration opening soon!*

**2023 MN Triad Conference**  
Hosted by Goodhue County

Goodhue is busy planning for  
our first in-person conference  
since 2019!!

## Did You Know?

**The average price of gas  
in 2000 was  
\$1.56**

**(and can you believe that  
Y2K was over 20 years ago!)**

## Special Article

### School is Back in Session

*by Julie Duehring,  
MN Triad Vice-President*

Thanks to our MN Triad Vice-President  
Julie Duehring for putting together this  
article on School Bus Safety! Great tips  
to keep everyone safe!!

### Motorist’s Etiquette with School Buses

- When children are getting **on/off the bus** and the school bus lights are **flashing red** and the **stop arm is extended**, the motor vehicle driver must **STOP at least 20 feet** from the bus and **remained stopped** until....
- The children have either boarded or are away from the bus, off the road or adjacent sidewalk. The school bus has **switched off** its red flashing lights and **retracted** its stop arm, THEN the motorist is allowed to proceed ahead.
- There is NO Passing On The Right of a school bus when its Amber Lights are flashing. This is a pre-warning to motorists that the bus is about to stop.
- Drivers that **FAIL to stop** or **kept STOPPED** for a School Bus are guilty of misdemeanor **\$500 fine**. A gross misdemeanor: when motor vehicle driver passes on the right of school bus, and/or when the children are outside of the bus on the street, or highway or adjacent sidewalk. Enhanced fine/court.
- EXCEPTION: If the school bus is on adjacent road next to the road the motorist is on would be an exception; the motorist does not need to stop.  
Source: [www.revisor.mn.gov](http://www.revisor.mn.gov)  
Minnesota State Statute 169.444

Motorists help to keep pedestrians safe  
by:

- Motorists use extra precaution when stopped at or in the turn lane at traffic control intersections. Stop before the crosswalk to allow the pedestrians to walk safely within crosswalk.
- Be extra alert while entering school zones: When the school zone warning light sign is

flashing, always yield to walkers in crosswalk.

- Be alert when traveling near playgrounds, school zones and residential areas where children are unpredictable, ignore hazards and take risks.
- Never go around a vehicle that is stopped ahead waiting for pedestrian to cross.

These are just a few tips to keep in mind with you see children walking to/from school. These tips may sound easy, but are so important, especially when you are distracted with life. Put down the electronics and keep your mind on the road, watch for bikers, pedestrians, school buses. Do your part to keep us all safe.

For additional information check out the following sources:

<https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/school-safety/back-to-school-safety-tips-for-drivers>

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/school-bus-safety/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/169.444>

<https://www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org/factsheets>

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/>

## It's All About Safety

### Honest, Truth & Trust

Be Honest.... How many things/people do you trust at face value these days? Do you believe everything everyone tells you? Do you believe everything you see? How often do we encourage you to check into everything?

A common saying is that if it's on the internet it must be true! Well, we all know that isn't true. Honesty, truth and trust are values that we all appreciate. Unfortunately, scammers don't usually live by these values.

Scammers often target seniors as they grew up in an era where they were raised to be polite and trusting of others. Scammers don't hesitate to exploit these traits. Scammers may be friendly or sympathetic in some cases or threatening in others. They may use email, online dating sites, phone calls or traditional mail to contact you. They may even show up at your door offering a service. Scammers also count on the effects of age and memory to play in their favor if an older person does report a scam. May victims don't

realize they've fallen prey to a scam until weeks or months after it happened. This can make it difficult for a person to remember all the details that could help authorities.

#### Common Scams:

- Sweepstakes and Lottery Scams
- Online Dating Scams
- Money Mule Scams
- IFS and Tax Scams
- Tech Support Scams
- Drug Smuggling Scams
- Grandparent Scams

Most of you are familiar with these scams. While they have differences, the commonality that all scams usually share is the [3 Red](#)

#### Flags:

- Promises of free money or fast cash
- Pressure to act fast
- If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is

#### How to Protect Yourself from Fraud:

Asking questions and taking your time can keep you from being a victim of fraud. Never give out your personal information to someone who calls or emails. Especially your bank account information, Social Security number and birthdate. Questions can quickly expose a scam and scare the callers away. It is also good to talk with friends and family before agreeing to any offer or situation. They can help you identify a possible scam and come up with solutions.

As a family member or friend, you should also watch for [Signs of Elder Fraud](#):

- Large or unexplained bank withdrawals
- New acquaintances suddenly accompanying them to the bank
- Sudden insufficient fund activities or unpaid bills
- Forgery or suspicious signatures on checks
- Wiring large sums of money
- Embarrassment or unwillingness to discuss the problem
- Loss of property
- Altered wills and trusts

Reporting fraud can prevent scam artists from hurting other people.

#### Where to Report Scams:

- Local law enforcement
  - All
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Money mule scams, drug smuggling scams, lottery and sweepstakes scams, tech support scams, IRS and tax scams
- Federal Trade Commission
  - Online dating scams and tech

#### *support scams*

- IRS
  - IRS and Tax Scams
- Social Security Administration
  - IRS and Tax Scams and any scam in which you've given out your Social Security #
- State Attorney General's Office
  - All consumer-related scams, including online dating, tech support, grandparent and mail-related scams
- US Postal Service
  - Mail Scams

Some info from [ConsumerNotice.org](http://ConsumerNotice.org)

## Recipe

### Lemon Meringue Pie

1 baked 9" pie crust      ½ c sugar  
1 sm box lemon pie filling    ¼ c water  
3 egg yolks (whites in meringue)  
1 tbsp real lemon (from bottle or lemon)

Put all ingredients in medium pan. Cook on medium heat, stirring constantly until a full boil. Stir a few times and set aside to cool 5 minutes. Pour into 9" baked pie crust when mixture is cooled. Set aside and make meringue.

#### Meringue recipe:

In mixing bowl, beat 3 egg whites and ¼ tsp cream of tartar. Beat until stiff. Then add in 1/3 c sugar. Then spread over pie and bake 350 for 10 to 15 minutes until lightly golden color.

## MN Triad Meetings

Next meeting date and location TBD.

One option may be to hold the meeting in conjunction with the Scam Jam event in Oakdale on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Your thoughts?

If you have any questions, items that should be addressed or that you'd like to share with our Triad members throughout the state, please contact our MN Triad Board Members or send an e-mail message to [triadmn@gmail.com](mailto:triadmn@gmail.com).

**All are welcome and encouraged to attend these State Triad meetings.**

