

"Beware Of ..."

November 03, 2002

For those of you who regularly read my column, you know that I like to write about events that occur in our town. You will also know that of my richest sources of information is the "Police Log" that is printed in the weekly town newspaper. Here's a recent entry from the log:

"On Oct. 10th at 9:37 a.m., an employee of the Sun Life Insurance Company was on Rte. 9 was contacted by one of her credit card companies, informing her of some unusual charges. When the woman checked her wallet, she noticed that two of her credit cards were missing. She believes that the cards were stolen while she was at work on either Oct. 7 or Oct. 8 ..."

Now, you're probably thinking, "well that's very interesting but I don't see what the big deal is ... this sort of thing happens all the time." Here's the big deal ("the rest of the story") ...

Deputy Police Chief William Brooks said that credit card fraud is a problem that plagues the town's office parks. "It's a chronic problem in the larger office parks," said Brooks. "Well-dressed people come into a building and roam halls, giving the appearance that they belong there. What they're really looking for are open office doors and unattended desks to take one or two cards and then leave."

Some things never change! Two thousand years ago, Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets ... they come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves." All you have to do is peruse the religious channel on television to see the truth of this statement ... but maybe the best lesson in all of this is to simply not judge a book by its cover. I have long felt that character will always eventually reveal itself ... both positively and negatively. But in the meantime, please hang on to your purses and pocketbooks ... and be wary of giving money to "ministries" that you don't know too much about!