



Neighborhood Watch Newsletter Memorial Day Edition



MAKE SAFETY 1ST ON "TO DO" LIST THIS MEMORIAL DAY

Regardless if you're destination is the beach, the lake for a day on the boat, some retreat in the mountains, or around the pool on the patio in your backyard, safety is always the number-1 objective during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend.

Regarded as the first weekend of the summer, if you're planning on traveling expect to be one of the millions of people who will be hitting the road this Memorial Day weekend. The American Red Cross wants everyone to have a safe trip and has some travel safety steps everyone can follow to help them enjoy their trip and has offered these safety recommendations:

- **Drive Safely:** Be well-rested and alert, use your seat belts, observe speed limits and follow the rules of the road. If you plan on drinking alcohol, designate a driver who won't drink.
- Give your full attention to the road by avoiding distractions such as cell phones.
- Use caution in work zones. There are lots of construction projects underway on the highways.
- Don't follow other vehicles too closely.
- Make frequent stops.
- Clean your vehicle's lights and windows to help you see, especially at night.
- Turn your headlights on as dusk approaches, or during inclement weather.
- Don't overdrive your headlights.
- Don't let your vehicle's gas tank get too low. If you have car trouble, pull as far as possible off the highway.
- Carry a Disaster Supplies Kit in your trunk.
- Let someone know where you are going, your route and when you expect to get there. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.
- **DOWNLOAD THE EMERGENCY APP.** The Red Cross app "Emergency" can help keep you and your loved ones safe by putting vital information in your hand for more than 35 different severe weather and emergency alerts. You can find it in smartphone app stores by searching for American Red Cross or going to redcross.org/apps.

And, if you are traveling with your pet, the Red Cross has special advice to make your trip more enjoyable.

"BLUESNARFING" - THE LATEST TACTIC TO STEAL YOUR CREDITCARD INFORMATION



Thieves are using a new tactic to steal debit and credit card information.

The scam known as "bluesnarfing" is when Bluetooth technology is used to steal and transfer information from one device to another.

The scams have been discovered being used at gas pumps in Waco and in McLennan County which is a relatively new technology to the area.

Thieves place a hidden Bluetooth device inside the gas pumps and wait for possible victims. The exchange of information happens within seconds of someone swiping a card at a pump, and that there is no way of knowing who the thief could be. The thief just needs to be connected to Bluetooth on a device such as a phone, tablet, or computer and be within 30 feet of the skimmer.

To avoid becoming a victim of "bluesnarfing," pay for gas at the register inside the store instead of using the card reader at the pumps, to pay with a credit rather than a debit card to protect pin numbers, and to sign up for bank notifications that alert cardholders to transactions.

1ST CASE OF RABIES CONFIRMED IN COPPERAS COVE

Lab tests confirmed on Wednesday that a raccoon that a dog killed in a residential neighborhood in Copperas Cove was rabid.

Copperas Cove animal control officers responded Monday to the 1100 block of West Lincoln Avenue and found the raccoon.



The Texas Department of Health confirmed the raccoon had rabies.

Authorities are advising resident who believe that they or their pets may have had contact with a raccoon or any other wild animal, or know of any people or pets who may have had contact, to call their animal control officer or police department.

Residents who think they or their pets may have had contact with a rabid animal should also contact their physicians or veterinarians.

Signs of rabies infection in a human may include, but are not limited to fever, headaches, fatigue, respiration difficulties, possible paralysis or hyperactivity, or coma.

Signs of rabies infection in pets may include fever, chewing at site of infection or bite, erratic behavior, walking aimlessly, general restlessness, skin irritability, sensitivity to light, aggression in animals not normally aggressive, and generally unnatural behavior for that animal.

Always avoid handling wild animals and to take steps to ensure their pets don't have contact; the slightest scratch can cause the infection.

BELCO. MOST WANTED AS OF MAY 15

This edition's featured fugitive is: Angel Jesse Martinez, 47, from Killeen, is a W/M with Brown Eyes and Brown Hair weighing 160 lbs and stands 5'7" tall. Martinez is Wanted For: Burglarizing a



Building. If you know of this person or any other persons featured in this issues most wanted list, contact Bell County Sheriff's Office at 254-933-5400, your local law enforcement, or CRIMESTOPPERS AT 1-800-729-TIPS (Local 526-TIPS).