

Woodlake Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Summer Safety Issue

The publication of this newsletter is unofficial and does not reflect any opinion, directive, or policy of the Woodlake Property Owners Association members or Board of Directors.

The primary purpose of the newsletter is to convey information designed to assist us to reduce or prevent crime in our community.

The information presented is available through various public access sources, personal interview, or observation. Your comments as to how we can improve this effort are welcome.

1. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted as of May 31st, 2014 - [http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd\(adult_probation\)/most_wanted.php](http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd(adult_probation)/most_wanted.php), and/or; <http://bellcountycrimestoppers.com/>;

(No Change: review the most recent wanted poster for Bell and Lampasas Counties).

Also, posted are the most current fugitives of justice of interest to the Killeen PD.

If you have any information regarding any of these individuals; Call the Bell County Sheriff's Office at 254-933-5400, your local law enforcement, or CRIMESTOPPERS AT 1-800-729-TIPS (Local 526-TIPS) There is now an "on-line" crime reporting system for your convenience:

http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/citizen_online_reporting_system/index.php

From Austin - Reward is increased to \$13,000 for tips received on this Sex Offender, Jerry Holmes, during the month of June 2014.



Race: American Indian Sex: Male, DOB: 10/5/1971, Ht: 5'9" Wt: 220 lbs. AKA: N/A, SMT: Tattoo of tribal art (unknown location) as well as other tattoos on right arm, left leg, and left hand. Scar on forehead. Wanted For: Failure to

comply with Sex Offender Registration Requirements, Assault of a Family/House Member by Impeding Breath/Circulation, CCH: Indecency with a Child by Exposure, Assault of a Family/House Member by Impeding Breath/Circulation, and Probation Revocation. LKA: 17232 County Road 829, #2, Pearland, TX. Caution: Subject should be considered ARMED and DANGEROUS!

Details: In 1996, Jerry Holmes was found guilty and received 5 years probation for Indecency with a Child by Exposure that involved a 13-year-old boy.

In 1998, he violated probation and was sentenced to 2 years' confinement in TDCJ prison. In 2011, while residing in Livingston, Texas, he assaulted a family member by grabbing her neck and choking her. The victim suffered bruises and swelling to her neck and other areas of her upper body. Holmes was

indicted, secured bail, but never showed up for his court date.

In May 2012, Holmes notified San Jacinto County that he was moving to Pearland, Texas, but he never checked back in with authorities.

In June 2012, a warrant for Assault of a Family/House Member by Impeding Breath/Circulation was issued by the Polk County Sheriff's Office. In August 2012, a warrant for Bond Surrender Forfeiture was issued by the Polk County Justice of the Peace. In April 2013, a warrant for Failure to Comply with Sex Offender Registration Requirements was issued by the San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office.

Holmes was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and has ties to several cities in Texas, including Pearland, Pasadena, South Houston, Shepherd, and Livingston. He has been known to work in the boating and trucking industries.

Source: Texas Crime Stoppers Text "DPS plus your tip" to 274637 (CRIMES) or call 1-800-252-TIPS (8477) - 24 hours a day.

2. Crime Update: Officers Responded To A Reported Assault In The 1800 Block Of E. Avenue K.; Incidence of Assault/Aggravated Assault Continues to Increase - Teatrice Rickaneesha Soders has been charged with aggravated assault causes bodily injury and terroristic threat for an incident that occurred on May 19.

Soders is accused of assaulting the other woman, and allegedly had a knife at one point. She is also accused of making a verbal threat toward the victim as she left the apartment.

Soders was transported to Scott & White hospital that night for evaluation. Officers got warrants for Soders the same day. She was arrested on Thursday by Temple officers without incident.

3. Make Safety a Priority, Not Just an Afterthought - It's that time of year again when our minds wander in anticipation of blissful days and sunny afternoons at the beach or cruising the lake.

The kids are finally out of school for the summer and you can all take that deserved vacation relaxing by the water - but wait; your recreation time, regardless of planned activities, is not free of responsibility.

Whatever your destination or activities, it is critically important to have a plan that includes safety and what to do in emergencies.

Not every dire situation can be anticipated but here are a few quick-tips to get you thinking about what you might need in the event of an emergency:

Before you start to pack evaluate your final destination and the environment you'll be

traveling, by what means and how long will it take to make the trip, then decide on your clothing needs.

- Besides emergency cash, credit cards, passports, what about having to carry any prescription medicines and first aid kits. Those should be tailored to meet your requirements, for instance - a bunch of athletic wraps would be more important for a hiking trip than for a day at the beach.
- For long trips in the car, especially with kids, be sure to have a good spare, some tools and plenty of packaged food and water in the event of a breakdown with help more than a few hours away.
- Having a good road service plan not only gives you piece of mind, some will help with accommodations. Tow truck drivers are not allowed to carry more than one person with them on a recovery so having an auto club that provides a rental car can be a lifesaver.
- Don't forget to pack the essentials of bug repellants, sunscreens, and tropicals for sunburn, bites and poison ivy as appropriate.
- Even if you prefer not to wear it, better to have a hat and a good pair of sunglasses.
- Be curious about the local fauna and wildlife that may pose potential dangers (i.e. snakes, scorpions, skunks, cats of all types, etc., and to recognize plants you may want to stay away from).

Nearly always taken for granted is the condition and reliability of our faithful four-wheeler: our beloved car, or van or truck.

The combination of heat, long trips and heavy loads can place enormous demands on your car. So, before you pull out of the driveway, you need to make sure that "Old Faithful" is ready for a long, hot trip.

Here's some advice for things to thoroughly check out:

- Discuss Summer Driving
- The Cooling System
- The Tires
- Steering and Suspension
- Change the Oil
- Air Conditioning System
- Check the Transmission
- Make a List to Take to your Mechanic

On those long road trips, you're sure to burn a tank-or-two of fuel. For those of you looking to minimize the increasingly costly stops at the pump, be sure to check out Guide to Better Fuel Economy. (Source: Yours in breakdown-free summer motoring, Tom and Ray Magliozzi & Click and Clack, the Tappet Brothers)

Whatever you plan or destination, no doubt somewhere there will be the opportunity for



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the kids to splash around in a pool, sit near a river or stream or go wading at the beach.

It's a fear every parent has when his or her child is near water - the fear of drowning.

The importance of water safety and drowning prevention cannot be overemphasized.

Don't ever take for granted that a child who recovers from nearly drowning from inhaling any amount of water is out of danger.

When suffering a near drowning experience, there is a threat of "secondary drowning or dry drowning" hours after being out of the water

It's a delayed reaction that causes inflammation in the lung tissue, which becomes edema, or added fluid in the lungs. Then the child becomes hypoxic with difficulty breathing.

Doctors say to look for signs of altered mentation or consistent coughing. If a child is experiencing the effects of secondary drowning, have them checked out immediately.

Sometimes parents can mistake secondary drowning symptoms for general fatigue. That error can be costly leading to life threatening injuries or sometimes, even death.

Physicians tell parents to look for signs up to 24 hours after a near drowning experience, to use careful judgment and to trust their gut.

If you're suspicious because of the change in behavior or because of the fatigue, it's time to take your child to the closest ER for them to be checked out.

A child should be monitored when near the water at all times because its only takes seconds of distraction for a drowning to occur. (*Source Dr. Dominic Lucia, Medical Director of McLane's Children Scott & White Emergency Department, in Temple, via KWKT*)

Swimming is the most popular summer activity. The best thing you can do to help your family stay safe is to enroll in age-appropriate swim lessons. The Belton high school swim

center offers swim classes by certified instructors or you can contact the Training Support Center at 1-800-RED-CROSS or support@redcrosstraining.org.

Follow these safety tips whenever you are in, on or around water:

- Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone. Even at a public pool or a lifeguarded beach, use the buddy system!
- Ensure that everyone in the family learns to swim well.
- Never leave a young child unattended near water and do not trust a child's life to another child; do not just drop your kids off at the public pool or leave them at the beach – designate a responsible adult to supervise.
- Teach children to always ask permission to go near water, and always stay within arm's reach of young children.
- Know What to Do in an Emergency
- If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.
- Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone.
- Establish rules for your family and enforce them without fail. For example, set limits based on each person's ability, do not let anyone play around drains and suction fittings, and do not allow swimmers to hyperventilate before swimming under water or have breath-holding contests.
- Even if you do not plan on swimming, be cautious around natural bodies of water including ocean shoreline, rivers and lakes. Cold temperatures, currents and underwater hazards can make a fall into these bodies of water dangerous.

- If you go boating, wear a life jacket! Most boating fatalities occur from drowning.
- Avoid alcohol use. Alcohol impairs judgment, balance and coordination; affects swimming and diving skills; and reduces the body's ability to stay warm.
- Install and use barriers around your home pool or hot tub.

If you have a pool or hot tub, have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit. Safety covers and pool alarms should be added as additional layers of protection. Ensure that pool barriers enclose the entire pool area, are at least 4-feet high with gates that are self-closing, self-latching and open outward, and away from the pool. The latch should be high enough to be out of a small child's reach.

If you have an aboveground or inflatable pool, remove access ladders and secure the safety cover whenever the pool is not in use.

Remove any structures that provide access to the pool, such as outdoor furniture, climbable trees, decorative walls and playground equipment.

Keep toys that are not in use away from the pool and out of sight. Toys can attract young children to the pool.

Enroll in Red Cross home pool safety, water safety, first aid and CPR/AED courses to learn how to prevent and respond to emergencies.

4. On The Horizon: Ever Wonder, "Where Does All the Data Used To Analyze Local Crime Trends Come From"? - RaidsOnLine (.com) is a ready resource for crime data practically anywhere in the U.S. In the next issue of the Neighborhood Watch Newsletter, we'll explore this resource and how to interpret data available through the local law enforcement departments.