

Woodlake Property Owners Association Neighborhood Watch Newsletter
Halloween 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.

Make Halloween a fun, safe and happy time for your kids and they'll carry on the tradition that you taught them with their own families some day!

And...., don't forget to get your Flu Shots!!!!

1. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted as of October 30th, 2013 - [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). (No change) Two of this issue's outlaws from Killeen are wanted for Possession of a Firearm by a Felon: 33 y/o James Williams, and 35 y/o Ronald Harris. Jason Newsom is a 35 y/o, W/M from Belton, wanted for Burglary of a Building. Another Beltonian - Tevin Morrison, is a 20 y/o B/M, who is wanted for Escape Causes Bodily Injury. Daren McLeod, 48, from Burnet wanted for Harassment of a Public Servant and Archie McPherson, 60, is from Moody is wanted on his third-strike for DUI.

Please review the attached flyer; if you have any information regarding those 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 at: http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/citizen_online_reporting_system/index.php

Four local residents you'll want to avoid this Halloween while "Tricks'r Treat'n":



Name: ROBERT HUTTO
Address: 7284 Sparta Road, Belton, TX
Offender ID: 2621641
Sex: M, Race: Caucasian, Age: 53
Offense: Indecency w/Child Contact



Name: KEVIN DRAKE
Address: 7120 Sparta Road, Belton, TX
Offender ID: 2621555
Sex: M, Race: Caucasian, Age: 37
Offense: Aggravated Sexual Assault



Name: FRANK HARRIS
Address: 3301 Beevers Circle #2, Belton, TX
Offender ID: 2621704
Sex: M, Race: Caucasian, Age: 53
Offense: Indecency w/Child Contact



Name: RONALD MARR
Address: 1226 Squire Drive, Belton, TX
Offender ID: 2621692
Sex: M, Race: Caucasian, Age: 49
Offense: OUT OF STATE REGISTRANT

2. Crime Update:

Killeen - Police are searching for an armed robbery suspect who was dressed in a devil mask and white gloves during the robbery of a Killeen Dollar General store at 38th and Lake Road on Monday night.

The suspect got an undetermined amount of cash then fled the scene after hearing a "pop." Police say someone else in the store might have fired a starter pistol, which frightened the robber.

3. Celebrate Fire Prevention Week by Observing Fire Safety:

http://www.foremostpromotions.com/browse/fire-prevention-week-fire-safety-promotions_22875/default.aspx, **Part 2, Bedroom and General Information -**

a. Each year, fire claims the lives of 3,400 Americans and injures approximately 17,500. Bedrooms are a common area of fire origin. Nearly 600 lives are lost to fires that start in bedrooms. Many of these fires are caused by misuse or poor maintenance of electrical devices, such as overloading extension cords or using portable space heaters too close to combustibles. Many other bedroom fires are caused by children who play with matches and lighters, careless smoking among adults, and arson.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) and the Sleep Products Safety Council (SPSC) would like you to know that there are simple steps you can take to prevent the loss of life and property resulting from bedroom fires.

Children are one of the highest risk groups for deaths in residential fires. At home, children usually play with fire - lighters, matches and other ignitables - in bedrooms, in closets, and under beds. These are "secret" places where there are a lot of things that catch fire easily.

- Children of all ages set over 35,000 fires annually.
- Every year over 400 children nine years and younger die in home fires.
- Keep matches and lighters locked up and away from children. Check under beds and in closets for burnt matches, evidence your child may be playing with matches.
- Teach your child that fire is a tool, not a toy.
- Bedrooms are the most common room in the home where electrical fires start. Electrical fires are a special concern during winter months which call for more indoor activities and increases in lighting, heating, and appliance use.
- Do not trap electric cords against walls where heat can build up.
- Take extra care when using portable heaters. Keep bedding, clothes, curtains and other combustible items at least three feet away from space heaters.
- Only use lab-approved electric blankets and warmers. Check to make sure the cords are not frayed. Tuck Yourself In For A Safe Sleep
- Never smoke in bed.
- Replace mattresses made before the 2007 Federal Mattress Flammability Standard. Mattresses made since then are required by law to be safer.

Finally, having working smoke alarms dramatically increases your chances of surviving a fire. Place at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home and in halls outside bedrooms. And remember to practice a home escape plan frequently with your family.

A smoke alarm installed within 10 to 20 feet of a cooking appliance must be a photoelectric type or have a hush feature, which temporarily reduces the sensitivity of the alarm.

- If a smoke alarm sounds during normal cooking, press the hush button if the smoke alarm has one. Open the door or window or fan the area with a towel to get the air moving. Do not disable the smoke alarm or take out the batteries.



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• Treat every smoke alarm activation as a likely fire and react quickly and safely to the alarm.

Young children are at high risk of being burned by hot food and liquids. Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of 3 feet (1 meter) around the stove.

- Keep young children at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from any place where hot food or drink is being prepared or carried. Keep hot foods and liquids away from table and counter edges.
- When young children are present, use the stove's back burners whenever possible.
- Never hold a child while cooking, drinking, or carrying hot foods or liquids.
- Teach children that hot things burn.
- When children are old enough, teach them to cook safely. Supervise them closely.

If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop and roll. Stop immediately, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth to put out the fire. Immediately cool the burn with cool water for 3 to 5 minutes and cover with a clean, dry cloth. Don't apply creams, ointments, sprays or other home remedies.

b. Halloween Safety – (See Supplemental Information)

A few safety tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission can protect children who plan to go trick-or-treating this Halloween.

Treats: Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has carefully examined them for evidence of tampering.

Flame Resistant Costumes: When purchasing a costume, masks, beards, and wigs, look for the label Flame Resistant. Although this label does not mean these items won't catch fire, it does indicate the items will resist burning and should extinguish quickly once removed from the ignition source. To minimize the risk of contact with candles or other sources of ignition, avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.

Costume Designs: Purchase or make costumes that are light and bright enough to be clearly visible to motorists.

• For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware, bicycle, and sporting goods stores.

• To easily see and be seen, children should also carry flashlights.

• Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling.

• Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother's high heels are not a good idea for safe walking.

• Hats and scarfs should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes.

• Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear a

loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.

• Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

Pedestrian Safety: Young children should always be accompanied by an adult or an older, responsible child. All children should WALK, not run from house to house and use the sidewalk if available, rather than walk in the street. Children should be cautioned against running out from between parked cars, or across lawns and yards where ornaments, furniture, or clotheslines present dangers.

Choosing Safe Houses: Children should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome.

• Children should not enter homes or apartments unless they are accompanied by an adult.

• People expecting trick-or-treaters should remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps and porches. Candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame. Indoor jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from curtains, decorations, and other furnishings that could be ignited.

4. On The Horizon: Halloween Crime Prevention -

Parents should accompany their children on their Halloween adventure. There are scarier and truly ghoulish predators taking advantage of the opportunity by roaming the streets preying on children with pranks that range from harmless to malicious. Many communities will have extra police dispatched before and during Halloween, and parole and probation officers keeping an eye on sex offenders.

If you see young teens roaming as a group unescorted by adults, stand by your property. An adult presence is often enough to keep most young potential trouble makers in check but, keep your cell phone handy.

If you see strange adults or young adults driving by slowly or attempting to interact with children, get the license number and call police.

Review <http://raidsonline.com/> for information about registered sexual predators for addresses to avoid.

Make sure your children are cautioned to:

- NEVER approach any house that is not well lit and does not have a porch or outside light on. Children should be cautioned to remember any suspicious incidents and report them to their parents and/or the proper official.
- To run away from people who try to trick them with special treats.
- Scream and make a scene if anyone tries to grab them or force them, in any way, to go with them.

Parents inspect all treats and dispose of anything that seems to have been tampered with, has been opened, or is not wrapped.

A good alternative to Trick or Treating is for parents to organize parties at home, in schools, or in community centers.

Have a fun and safe Halloween!!! *The WPOA NW Coordinator.*