

Woodlake Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

LEOs RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT AT WOODLAKE

Crime prevention is a 24-7 endeavor but made easier, thanks to conscientious patrolmen and women of the Bell County Sheriff's Department and the "Vacation Watch" initiative, that enhance the safety of our families and the security of our property.

We had the honor of meeting and becoming acquainted with two of Bell County's finest, Deputies Andrews and Foster, who took the time-out of their usual "beat" to attend the gathering. Together with Lt. Lewing, their shift supervisor and Deputy dog-handler Meischmen with his young canine in training, members were able to personally express how much their service to the community was appreciated.

Dead bolts, security systems, cameras and lighting may deter would-be thieves, but "Noisy Dogs, Nosy Neighbors and a Noticeable Presence" in no particular order are the cornerstones to safe communities at preventing crime. And, thanks to the diligence and dedication of the Bell County Sheriff's Department and that third-tier the deputies provide, in the past 12 months crime rates for the "Sparta Valley" area of interest, have decreased precipitously, most notably a 27% decline the incidence of Burglary of a Habitation.

BELL COUNTY SHERIFF TIP LINE: WANTED AS OF OCTOBER 31st, 2015

http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd/adult_probation/most_wanted.php , and/or; <http://bellcountycrimestoppers.com>.



Wanted For: Robbery is Marion Robinson from Killeen. Robinson, 39, is a B/M with Bro Eyes and Blk Hair, stands 6'1" tall and weighs 205 lbs.

FROM AUSTIN: The Texas Department has revoked the reward for: Ernest Leroy Smith, a Sexually Violent Predator, was taken into custody by the Cheyenne Police Department on September 6, 2015, in Cheyenne, Wyoming, following a disturbance at a truck stop. Smith was added to the Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitive list on August 27, 2015, after he violated his civil commitment requirements by knowingly and intentionally cutting off his ankle monitor and absconding from a halfway house in Houston.



Smith had multiple sex crimes against children in the 1980's and 1990's, which included convictions for Indecency with a Child and Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child. In 1997, he received a 20-year sentence in TDCJ prison for Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child for an incident in Lamar County that involved a 5-year-old male child.

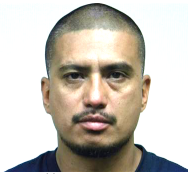
Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles issued a parole warrant for Smith's arrest on August 27, 2015. Subsequently, a warrant was issued out of Harris County for Failure to Comply with Civil Commitment Requirements.

Bell County Home to Another Child Sex Offender

Martin Carvajal is a Moderated Risk Sexual Predator. He is a 40 y/o, 5'8" tall, 172 lbs., white Hispanic male, with Black Hair and Brown Eyes.

Carvajal was convicted in April, 1999, to serve 9 years in Huntsville State Prison for Sexual Assault of a 15-year old female.

His current address is: 6589 Full View 1st Street, Belton, TX.



WHAT TO TELL YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE

Talk openly with your children about sexual development, behavior and abuse. If you're uncomfortable using proper terms for body parts, (penis and vagina), they will be too. Also, use phrases like; private parts are private and special.

Explain that, if anyone touches or tries to see their private parts, tries to get them to touch or look at another person private parts, shows them pictures of or tries to take pictures of their private parts, talks to them about sex, walks in on them in the bathroom or does anything that makes them feel uncomfortable to tell you or a support person as soon as they can or the next time they see you.

Say that some children and adults have touching problems, may try to make secret touching look accidental and trick them into keeping the touching a secret, or use candy, money, special privileges, threats, subtle fear of loss, separation or punishment etc. And let them

know that these are not acceptable behaviors.

Let them know that touching other people's private parts, whether secret or not, is not OK or for adults to do with children. But, that you will not be mad at them if they do come and tell you it has happened.

Explain that touching problems are kind of like stealing or lying. People with those problems need special help so they don't get into trouble. Don't describe it as a sickness.

Talk to your children or play "what if" games with them on a regular basis (monthly), and about safety issues at least two or three times a year. Develop a family plan for answering the phone, fire safety, getting lost and secret touching.

Make sure they have support people they can talk to at home, at school, in their extended family, neighborhood or church. Have them pick out three people and tell you who they are. Put the phone numbers next to your phone and let them know that, if for any reason, they cannot talk to you - that they should call/or go see another support person.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD GETS ABUSED

If your child tells you that he or she has been touched inappropriately, stay calm. Your reaction may make your child feel more guilty or afraid and they might have a harder time talking about what happened.

Let them know you are glad they told you, telling was a good way to take care of themselves, and to help the person who touched them, and that you will take care of things. Be honest to include that you will need to talk to someone to figure out what to do next.

Avoid confusing your child, causing anxiety or shame and seek support and comfort for yourself where the child can't see or hear what you say.

Too much information/discussion can also interfere with the police investigation or prosecution.

Call your local child abuse hotline or local police department and report the abuse. Failing to report the abuse ASAP may mean that other children might get abused too. Don't try to handle the situation yourself, or confront or allow further contact between your child and the alleged offender.

The prognosis for healing after being molested is better for children who are supported and believed when they disclose.

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SAFETY TIPS FOR SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

Trust your instincts. Perception and not worrying is what serves safety.

Don't let young male children go into a men's public restroom by themselves. Be cautious and get references about whom you allow to baby-sit or spend time alone with your children. Try to bathe and dress your own children. Routinely quiz your children about what happens while you are gone. Ask questions about what they did, if it was fun and if anything happened you should know about. Don't always tell your children to mind the babysitter. Avoid having young male babysitters.

Get to know the people and homes where your children play.

Periodically check on your children, especially when they are playing with other kids in your home. If you know that one of your children's friends has been sexually abused, be more attentive to their playtime.

Don't let your children walk or ride their bike to school or to a friend's home alone. Children should travel in groups or with an adult.

Know your neighbors. Develop a Neighborhood Watch or Block House program.

Supervise all Internet activities, conversations in chat-rooms, and the social sites they're allowed to visit. Warn your children to never give out their phone number, address or school name to anyone they meet over the Internet.

SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT AND BEHAVIOUR BETWEEN CHILDREN

Many forms of sexual play or experimentation are normal and developmentally appropriate. However, when one child is 3 or more years older, significantly larger, more powerful (physically or emotionally), more sexually sophisticated or uses bribes, threats or intimidation to be sexual with another child, sexual contact falls under a legal definition of abuse. If oral sex, simulated or actual intercourse, French kissing or penetration is involved, the situation warrants immediate investigation. Do not attempt to resolve these issues alone; seek outside, professional guidance.

If your child engages in any type of sexually inappropriate behavior, get professional help right away. Try not to become overly defensive of your child or reject the notion that your child could have done something sexually

inappropriate. Untreated, a child's sexual problems may become worse and create many more problems for you, family, school and community. This includes date rape or sexual assault between preteens and teenagers. Boys who sexually assault girls frequently grow up to molest their own children or engage in domestic violence.

If another child engages your child in sexually inappropriate behavior or talk, tell their parents what happened so that they can get help before it's too late. If you do not think that the family is seeking professional help, contact your local child abuse hotline.

Talk to your children about appropriate sexuality. Emphasize consent, birth control and STDs. Children should not observe direct sexual contact or any type of pornography.

FACTORS THAT PLACE KIDS AT A HIGHER RISK FOR ABUSE & OFFENDER TRAITS

Age, friendliness, shyness, good manners, naivety, curiosity, or isolation, living in a single parent home, drug or alcohol abuse by parents, parental illness or emotional unavailability, severe marital conflict or domestic violence in the home, all contribute to put children at a high risk for abuse.

Other factors such as: living in a home with a stepfather or a mother's boyfriend, prior abuse, having an unemployed father or parents that work different shifts, parents who are sexually preoccupied, use pornography or have pornography in the home, and inadequate parental supervision of children also contribute.

Parents should be wary of adults who seem preoccupied with children, are single and work or volunteer with children's clubs/activities or adults who work with children and also frequently spend their free time doing special things with kids. Be especially cautious about adults who seem to engage in frequent contact with children, i.e., casual touching, caressing, wrestling, tickling, combing hair or having children sit on their lap, who act like children with children or who allow children to do questionable or inappropriate things, or who want to take your children on special outings too frequently or plan activities that would include being alone with your child.

Please note, not all offenders will demonstrate the above characteristics.

(Source: Cory Jewell Jensen, M.S, Steve Jensen, M.A., Center for Behavioral Intervention 4345 109th, Beaverton, Oregon 97005)

SVFD COMMENDED DURING NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT GATHERING -

The evening began far from typical - even for the Annual National Neighborhood Night Out, October 6th 2015.

Some of our Honored Guests, the Sparta Volunteer Fire Department, also the source of the grill needed to prepare the burgers for the feast, were off doing what firefighters do that afternoon, which is - Fighting Fires!

No fussing about it; that wouldn't get the guests and the grill to the tennis court location any sooner. That, of course didn't stop the members present from breaking into the carton of chips to munch while relaxing and re-kindling acquaintances, relationships and meeting new residents while tuned-in to various genre of music from the 60's through the "double-aught"; to include Abba and Acoustic Alchemy to Zappa and Zeppelin.

When the grill arrived gradually attendees edged toward the "kitchen" zone ready to sample the first delicacies to come off the fire.

To our surprise, Lt. Lewing, our assigned deputies' shift supervisor, was present until duty took priority. Later, Deputies Andrews and Foster, so happen to be on their usual beat, were gracious enough to drop-by to get acquainted and to grab a free meal.

Howard S. opened the event by commending Pat Baird, Chief Taylor and the SVFD for their recent acquisition of their brand-new Brush Truck, 6 sets of SCBA's and their employment of 15 fully certified firefighters.

Howard S. mentioned the U.S. Flags were at half-mast to commemorate the deaths-in-the-line-of-duty of 93 law enforcement officers nationwide.

After a short moment of silence to honor Deputy Goforth, murdered near Houston, and the wish his and the families whose loved ones died in the line of duty, might find piece and that their loss was not in vain.

Collecting initial surveys for the CERT program "crawl-walk-run" development, Howard S. reminded the attendees the principal objective of NNNO is to promote Crime Awareness and Prevention.

To the delight of all the kids, canine handler, officer Meischmen with his charge and trainee - the mixed breed drug-sniffer, entertained us with a demonstration of a how a K9-deputy is trained and handled; being among a noisy crowd is basic for young canine recruits.

Thanks go to Tom K., Debbie K., Eric S., Nancy & Mike G., for their untiring support that made all the pieces come together for another great NNNO event.

The publication of this newsletter is unofficial and does not express 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.