

Rains County Sheriff's Department Report

by Rains County Sheriff David Traylor

The following reports were taken by the Rains County Sheriff's Department during the week of April 22 to April 28:

4-22: Incident report. It was reported by a man who owns a residence on PR 7309 that he and his wife were separating, and he was gone for a week while she moved out. He stated that when he returned, he found that she took a salt water system and the pump. He was advised that it would be a civil issue because they were still married.

4-22: Theft of a firearm. It was reported by a man that he went on a trip to Oklahoma and took his 1911 Smith and Wesson .45-caliber pistol. He stated that after he returned home, he noticed that the pistol had been removed from the case but the clips were still inside. He stated that he had no idea when the pistol may have been taken or where he was when it happened.

4-23: Incident report. It was reported by the president of Steamboat Shores that he received several complaints about a dog running loose. He stated that the dog appeared to be a black Lab. After an officer arrived, the officer contacted several people who might be the owner. Everyone told him the dog was a stray, so it was caught and was taken to a kennel.

4-23: Criminal mischief. It was reported by two motorists that they were driving on Hwy. 69S just outside the Emory city limits when their vehicles were struck by objects. One driver stated that he saw two or perhaps three white males run from the location and into a residence. After officers spoke with both drivers and observed broken windows and body damage to both vehicles, they went to the residence and located two male subjects. It was found that two boys shot rocks at the vehicles using a sling shot. Both were taken into custody for the offense of criminal mischief.

4-24: Driving while intoxicated. It was reported by a citizen living on FM 779 south of Hwy. 69 that a vehicle ran off the road and struck a tree. The reporting person also stated that the driver then ran into the woods.

After officers arrived, they could not locate the driver, but

a license plate check was run on the vehicle, and the registered owner was contacted. She stated that she picked up her husband from that location. She was asked to return him to the same location, but the husband denied operating the vehicle. However, evidence at the scene and bruises on his body indicated that he was the driver. He was taken to a hospital by his wife, and charges will be filed at large on the male for driving while intoxicated.

4-25: Incident report. It was reported by a man who lives on PR 6180 that cows were out and possibly damaged his air conditioning unit. After an officer arrived, the cows were located, and a man was there to see if they belonged to him. It was determined that they were not his but he assisted in putting them back in a pasture from where it was believed they came. The officer saw no damage to the air conditioning unit.

4-25: Harassment by phone. It was reported by a man and woman living on CR 2132 that during the previous night, they received over 50 phone calls from a female, two of them threatening. The man stated that he recognized the female's voice to be that of his ex-wife who was arrested once before for phone harassment. An affidavit and complaints will be filed and additional charges will be filed.

4-26: Theft of property. It was reported by a man who lives on CR 1302 that sometime in the last couple of days, someone removed the starter from his 1993 Ford diesel pickup. He stated that they also cut the battery cable, and an air tank and a set of magnet tow lights were taken from the bed of the truck. He also found that a pair of bolt cutters were removed from the cab.

4-26: Harassment and threats by text messages. It was reported by a woman that she and her husband are getting a divorce, and he is upset about not getting to see his son when he wants. She showed the officer threatening text messages that the husband sent. An attempt to contact the husband was made but it went to his voice mail, which was full.

4-26: Theft of copper. It was reported by a man, who is care-

taker of property on Hwy. 276 west of FM 47, that he received a call from a person who stated that the gate to the property had been knocked down. He stated that the property was entered, and copper electric wire and an electric meter were taken.

4-27: Identity theft. It was reported by a woman that she received a letter from the Texas State Comptroller stating that the state's data system had been compromised and her identity was taken. She stated that on that same day, she received a letter from Sears with a credit card in her name for which she had not applied. She said the letter stated that there were two charges on the card for \$100.

4-27: Injury to the elderly. It was reported by a woman that she and her husband were assaulted by their son and at the same time, her grandson was assaulted by his brother. She reported that her son and the assaulting grandson left and after officers arrived and took statements from all parties, complaints and affidavits were filed with the Justice of the Peace. Warrants were issued for the son and the assaulting grandson, who was located and taken into custody, but the son fled into the woods.

4-28: Theft of property. It was reported by a man with property off FM 515 that someone entered the property during the previous night and removed four tubs of golf balls. He estimated that there were approximately 4,000 balls valued at over \$1,500.

4-28: Theft of property. It was reported by a woman that she saw several male subjects removing items from a location but thought they were workers. A wallet was later found there, and officers were called to the location. It was found that the person who lost the wallet and other males were at the location looking for the wallet, but they admitted to taking scrap metal without the property owner's permission. It was found that an antique plow was also missing. Statements were taken and a follow-up investigation will continue, with possible at-large charges filed.

ARRESTS
4-22: Praxedis Ortiz, Terrell. Driving while intoxicated,

\$3,000 bond.

4-22: Jenny Ann Brown, Sulphur Springs. Dallas County theft greater than \$50 but less than \$500, \$1,500 bond.

4-22: Hector Montoya, Alba. Driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 bond.

4-22: Michael Lance Welch, Lone Oak. Driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 bond.

4-23: Aerial Roark, Terrell. Theft greater than \$50 but less than \$500, \$500 bond.

4-23: Shelly Antionett Walker, Point. Travis County issuance of bad check, \$500 bond.

4-23: Misty Kay Goforth Lewers, Point. Possession of a controlled substance analogue PG1 less than 1g, \$5,000 bond.

4-24: Travis Lee Whitt, Point. Criminal mischief greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500, \$2,000 bond.

4-24: Evan Blake Whitt, Point. Criminal mischief greater than \$500 but less than \$1,500, \$2,000 bond.

4-24: Chelsey Leanne Childers, Point. Possession of drug paraphernalia, \$235 fine; failure to appear in court, \$290 fine.

4-24: Dawn Walker, Point Motel. Possession of a controlled substance PG3 less than 28g, \$3,000 bond; possession of a dangerous drug, \$3,000 bond.

4-25: Andrew Henry Blizard, Emory. Capias pro fine no driver's license, \$418 fine; failure to appear in court, \$275 fine.

4-25: Russell Lee Belcher, Quinlan. Possession of drug paraphernalia, \$200 fine.

4-26: Jesse Aaron Ragle, Emory. Failure to attend school, \$266.50 fine.

4-28: Joe Ray Middleton, Emory. Assault of a family member, \$3,000 bond.

4-28: Eddie Ray Middleton, Emory. Injury to the elderly, \$100,000 bond; injury to the elderly, \$100,000 bond; assault of a family member, \$100,000 bond; unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, \$100,000 bond.

4-28: Vincent Marcus Ransom, Sulphur Springs. Probation violation/child support, no bond.

4-28: Thomas Edward Akin, Big Spring. Probation violation/driving while intoxicated, no bond.

CALLS

4-22: CR 1219 theft of a firearm; Emory College St. medical assist; CR 3200 medical assist with an infant with breathing problems; Emory Lennon Dr. burglar alarm; Emory N. Dunbar noise complaint; Emory Brookshire's damaged door on a vehicle; Emory Katy Dr. medical assist; Hwy. 19N reckless driver; Hwy. 69N possible intoxicated driver; PR 7309 destruction of property; East Tawakoni Hwy. 276 reckless driver; CR 1490 burglar alarm; Emory Skyline Dr. power line arcing on a tree; Emory Clark St. loud music; FM 47 Flats community noise complaint; Emory Manor Apartments loud music; Emory Planters St. loose growling dog.

4-23: PR 7703 argument about a dog; FM 275 and CR 4340 horse out; Hwy. 69N cars hit with rocks or BBs; CR 1633 loud party; CR 3332 medical assist with an unresponsive person; CR 3330 dog noise; Sheriff's Office lobby reference minor accident on the previous night; Emory FM 275 dog hit by a car; Point Meadowview Lane burglar alarm; FM 515 2-vehicle auto accident.

4-24: East Tawakoni Garrett Ave mailbox damage; CR 3503 deer caught in a fence; East Tawakoni Garrett Ave sewage back-up; Emory Senior Suite and Rehab; medical assist with a person who fell; Point Avenue B man beating a dog; Point S. 1st St. burglar alarm; Emory S. Texas St. burglar alarm; CR 1495 4-wheelers on the road; CR 1490 medical assist with a person who overdosed; PR 7330 medical assist with a person with high blood pressure; FM 779 driver of a vehicle ran off the road and struck a tree; Hwy. 69S unrestrained child in a vehicle; Emory W. Quitman St. medical assist; Hwy. 69N possible intoxicated driver; East Tawakoni Briggs Blvd. medical assist with a person with breathing problems; FM 779 Colony community tree in the road; PR 7712 medical assist; Emory

Hwy. 69 burglar alarm.

4-25: CR 2180 at PR 6180 cows damaged property; CR 2132 harassment by phone; no address civil dispute about a missing vehicle; FM 514 near CR 3418 tree blocking the road; Emory Hwy. 69 medical assist; Hwy. 69S reckless vehicle; CR 3237 missing horses; East Tawakoni medical assist; Emory S. Dunbar tree blocking the road; Point Avenue B medical assist; Emory Brookshire's car fire; CR 3330 dogs barking.

4-26: CR 3040 and CR 3030 stop sign down; CR 1430 dogs and property line dispute; Emory Senior Suite and Rehab medical assist; CR 2540 burglar alarm; Hwy. 276 criminal mischief; FM 275 pants pulled down on a 15-year-old child; Emory N. Texas St. suspicious person; CR 4480 stray dogs; PR 7706 death notification; East Tawakoni Two-Mile bridge reckless 18-wheeler; Hwy. 276 and CR 1320 kids hanging out the window of a vehicle; Sheriff's Office lobby reference recent burglaries; Emory Reno St. medical assist; Hwy. 19S large tire in the road; Kountry Korner Motel verbal dispute; FM 47 terroristic threats by phone.

4-27: FM 514 and FM 2081 cow out; Emory Tawakoni Dr. medical assist; no address civil dispute about a lawnmower; FM 47 Van Zandt Co. fire assist; Point Northcutt addition harassment; CR 3120 abandoned dog; FM 2946 and CR 3316 cows out; Emory Senior Suite and Rehab medical assist; Hwy. 19N family violence; Emory Wood St. neighbor's dog loose; CR 3330 dogs barking; Emory Manor Apartments medical assist; Emory Ravine St. suspicious vehicle.

4-28: FM 515 theft of property; CR 3385 cows on property; Hwy. 69 and CR 4530 cows out; FM 514 and CR 4452 cow out; Emory Shell station medical assist; Point Northcutt addition dog loose; Emory Planters St. cows out; FM 779 theft of property Hwy. 19N and FM 514 cows out; CR 1301 reckless driver; FM 275 problems with neighbors; Emory Ravine St. suspicious vehicle.



From the Desk of

Ed Emig

Emory Fire Marshal

Arson Awareness Week May 1 - 7

Arson can devastate a community, resulting in the decline of the neighborhood through increased insurance premiums, loss of business revenue and a decline in property values.

Arson is difficult to prosecute, but the effects are felt throughout the community: workers lose jobs, towns and cities lose tax dollars, burned buildings create blighted areas and innocent people are injured or killed.

Take the Possum Kingdom area fires: one report showed the Fire Marshal's office was investigating nine possible intentionally set exterior arson fires. IF it is determined that arson was the probable cause for a portion of the 117 homes, loss of power and telephone companies' poles and transmission lines, loss of hun-

dreds of heads of cattle plus the loss of tourist revenue and other income to the area, the financial loss could run into the millions.

Uncontrolled arson, along with other serious crime, creates rampant fear among residents, business customers and potential visitors. If the community streets and roads seem out-of-control, people will be afraid to come into the area to visit or do business. Those conditions can quickly lead to a second stage where residents, who can afford to move out, begin selling homes even at a loss to escape before the bottom falls out. Property tax collections plummet, giving the community less and less resources to fight back.

Most arsons occur from four basic human causes and emotions: greed, revenge, profit and lust. In the U.S. there are 210,300 fires intentionally set each year,

representing 13 percent of all fires reported to the departments. Intentionally set fires result in 375 deaths, 1,300 injuries and over \$1 billion in direct property loss. The incidence of intentionally set fires peaks in the spring and again in mid-summer around July. Fifty-seven percent of intentionally set fires occur in outside areas. Twenty-two percent are set in structures.

What Can You Do?

- Keep leaves, firewood, overgrown brush and shrubbery and other combustibles away from buildings. Most arsons are started with a simple match or lighter and require very little effort.

- Keep doors and windows locked when a building is unoccupied. Board up abandoned buildings.

- Store all flammable liquids, such as paints, gasoline and aerosols, in an approved storage location; e.g. locked cabinets, locked storage units, locked garages, etc. (Most arson fires are started with on-site accelerators.)

- Be aware – report suspicious activity near houses or other buildings to local police and support neighborhood watch programs.

- If you know or suspect that arson was committed, contact your local fire department or law enforcement agency.

- Most importantly – be prepared for a fire.



From the Desk of

DAVID TRAYLOR

Rains County Sheriff

Immediate Effects of Marijuana

Immediate physical effects of marijuana are elevated heart and pulse rates, bloodshot eyes, and a dry mouth and throat.

Marijuana impairs or reduces short-term memory, alters one's sense of time, and reduces the ability to do things which require concentration, swift reactions, and coordination. Experiments have shown that marijuana affects a wide range of skills needed for safe driving.

These skills are impaired for a least 4-6 hours after smoking a single marijuana cigarette, long after the "high" is gone. Thinking and reflexes are slowed, making it difficult for an impaired driver to respond to sudden, unexpected events. A driver's ability to steer properly, brake quickly, and maintain speed and proper distance between cars is affected, according to research.

Long-Term Effects of Marijuana

Marijuana and its potent chemical THC cause cell abnormalities, alter normal cell division, affect genetic make-up of new cells and lower cell immunity, increasing the possibility of viral infections among users.

THC causes enlargement of the area between nerve cells, resulting in poor transmission

of nerve impulses between these cells. This "tampering" has several effects on the nervous system including:

- Impaired speech
- Difficulty in comprehending complex ideas
- Loss of memory
- Difficulty in concentrating or focusing on one subject
- Irregular sleep habits; in-somnia
- Mood swings
- Lack of body coordination
- Decrease in muscle strength
- Blurred vision and impaired visual perception

Marijuana is harmful to the entire respiratory system from the sinus cavities to the air sacs within the lungs. Marijuana smoke is more harmful than tobacco smoke, and users have a much higher incidence of respiratory disease than nonusers. Other respiratory problems associated with marijuana use are:

- Sinusitis – an inflammation of the lining of the sinuses, which is a result of smoke irritation to the nostrils.
- Bronchitis – an inflammation of the bronchial tubes which take air from the windpipe to the lungs. Chronic marijuana users often cough up yellowish-green mucous which may be tinged with blood.
- Lung cancer – marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing chemicals than tobacco smoke. Smoking three to five marijuana "joints" a week is equivalent to smoking 16 cigarettes every day.

Smoking one marijuana cigarette has the immediate effect of increasing heart rate and blood pressure as much as 50 percent. Marijuana increases the amount of toxic carbon monoxide in the blood, thereby reducing the amount of oxygen which reaches the heart. Increased blood pressure and changes in the blood vessels are reflected by the typical red or bloodshot eyes of the marijuana user.

Chest pains have been attributed to marijuana use. People who suffer from angina, high blood pressure, diabetes, or other heart problems take an even greater risk smoking marijuana.

Marijuana can have far-reaching effects on the reproductive systems of both males and females.

Effects on males

Decreased masculinity. Use of marijuana results in lowered levels of the male hormone testosterone. This hormone is essential for the development and support of male secondary sexual characteristics, such as hair growth, voice tone and muscle distribution.

Impotency. Male users of marijuana may experience an inability to function sexually.

Infertility. Moderate-to-heavy marijuana use, especially among 12- to 17-year-olds, can result in decreased or zero sperm production. Studies indicate increased production of abnormal sperm among users, which can result in birth defects in offspring.

Effects on females

Decreased femininity. Marijuana use by females increases the amount of testosterone in the body, causing an increase in acne and such male characteristics as body and facial hair, and flattening of the breasts and buttocks.

Infertility. Use of marijuana may interrupt the menstrual cycle and interfere with reproductive health and fertility. THC can cause irreversible damage to the supply of eggs from the ovaries.

Pregnancy complications. Research suggests that using marijuana during pregnancy may result in premature births, low-birth weights, birth defects and an increased infant mortality rate. Nursing mothers can transfer THC to their babies through their breast milk.

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