

FROM THE DESK OF THE POLICE CHIEF

# Internet Safety Tips for Parents

By Ryan Thompson, Pine Knoll Shores Police Chief

The internet has become a significant part of life. At the touch of a button, we can access a world of information, entertainment and communication, and we can do this not only from computers, but from phones, tablets, video game consoles and more. With all of this opportunity come new dangers and responsibilities. Just as we must teach our children how to use bicycle helmets and seat belts, we must teach them how to be safe online. To do this, we need to know what the internet is all about, how our children are using it, how to block or filter sites as needed, and how to teach kids to go online responsibly. Dangers today include sexual predators, cyberbullies, identity theft, and irreparable damage to your child's reputation and future success. As our children's first internet providers, we need to help them become wise tech users.

Learn about popular sites for young people, especially social networking sites, apps and terms. For younger children, find and mark sites and apps for them to use, perhaps with you. Talk to your children about the internet and the importance of being safe while online. Teach your children to never tell anyone personal information about themselves unless they ask a parent first. This includes their name, address, phone number, passwords, school name or parents' names. Teach your children never to agree to meet anyone in person they meet online unless a parent approves it and goes with them.

Putting the computer in an open area of your home, such as the living room or kitchen, will make it easier to monitor activity than if the computer is in your child's room—and it is also very important to monitor your children's use of social media/networking and email accounts. If your child gets uneasy when you enter the room while he/she is on the computer, this might indicate inappropriate computer use.

Become familiar with parental control programs, which can filter or block content that is inappropriate for your children. Windows and Mac OS X operating systems come with free parental controls. To find these controls, look into your system preference settings.

(Continued on page 24)

## CONTENTS

At the Aquarium.....	17
At the Library.....	19
CAC Update .....	10
Country Club News .....	6
Current Crossword.....	22
Current Sudoku .....	26
Events Calendar .....	9
Fishing and Hunting .....	24
Fishing Hall of Fame .....	25
Garden Club .....	5
Have You Heard . . . ? .....	23
History of Pine Knoll Shores .....	20
Kramer's Korner .....	11
Mayor's Memo .....	13
Out and About .....	12
PIKSCO Happenings .....	8
Pine Knoll Shores Commissioners Meeting .....	21
PKA News.....	17
Puzzle Solutions.....	4
Town Crier .....	14-15
What's Up With PARC? .....	11
Women's Club .....	4



## PUBLIC SAFETY

### POLICE

During December, there were 2 arrests; 14 911 hang-ups; 11 alarm activations; 1 damage to property call; 1 breaking or entering call; 20 assist Fire/EMS calls; 1 motor vehicle collision; 2 assist other agency calls; 106 traffic stops; 13 citations issued, which included 2 speeding, 2 registration/inspection, 4 license revoked/expired, 4 other traffic violations and 1 other criminal offense; 7 beach patrols; 329 business checks; 478 foot patrols; and 177 residence checks. Police personnel participated in 123 training hours. Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) worked 27.5 hours.

### FIRE AND EMS

During December, responders handled 1 fire, 1 good intent call, 22 rescue and emergency medical service incidents, 2 service calls, 1 hazardous condition (no fire) call and 6 false alarm and false calls. Personnel participated in 7,012 training hours for the year.

REMINDER: Lock your doors, especially your vehicles, and don't leave valuables in sight. Report suspicious people or vehicles to dispatch (726-1911) so that the police can be notified. You are not "bothering" the police if you call to report something that doesn't look right. They prefer to assess the situation rather than find out after the fact that you had noticed something and didn't report it. Alert citizens are assets to the community.

The  
*Shoreline*

email: Shoreline@townofpks.com  
www.townofpks.com

#### EDITOR:

Janie Price 240-2365

#### EDITORS AT LARGE:

Mary Battista 422-4063  
Marilyn Brandt 919-377-2501  
Alicia Durham 241-8930

#### CONTRIBUTING

##### REPORTERS:

Frederick S. Boyce 723-6276  
Paige Gillespie  
Marian Goetzinger 422-9000  
Jean McDanal  
Barbara Milhaven 240-0678  
Jacquie Pipkin 622-0340  
Jim Scanlon 726-4174  
Richard Seale 726-0478  
Jim Turner 240-2474  
Ken Wilkins

#### CIRCULATION MANAGER:

Erica Reed 247-4353

#### GRAPHIC DESIGNER:

Michelle Dobbs 726-7081

#### ADVERTISING:

Marie Lawrence 726-7081

#### ARTICLE DEADLINE

DUE DATE	ISSUE
Wed., Feb. 12	March
Wed., March 13	April
Wed., April 15	May
Wed., May 13	June
Mon., June 15	July
Wed., July 15	August
Wed., Aug. 12	September
Wed., Sept. 16	October

#### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

The 19th of the month prior to desired issue  
Articles always welcome.