SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY
One injured child is one too many!
Please be aware that Putnam City Schools start August 19th

BACK TO SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIPS

School Bus Safety for Motorist:
- Motorists coming to a school bus from EITHER direction MUST STOP when the bus displays flashing red warning lights and extends the stop signal arm. These signals show that children are getting on or off the school bus.
- Vehicles may not pass until the flashing red lights and signals are turned off. Passing when the flashing red warning lights are on and the stop signal arm is extended is illegal and can have tragic results.
- Violation of these laws can result in a citation and fine. In many places, school bus drivers can report passing vehicles.

School Bus Safety for Children:
- Wait for the bus away from traffic and the street.
- Do not head toward the bus until it comes to a complete stop.
- When exiting the bus, walk away from the bus and keep a safe distance. A good rule is to take five “giant steps” out from the front of the bus, or until the driver’s face can be seen.
- Look left-right-left when coming to the edge of the bus to make sure traffic is stopped.

School Bus Safety for Parents:
- Supervise children as they wait for the bus, making sure they are away from the street.
- Instruct your child to ask the driver for help if he or she drops something near the bus. If a child bends down to pick something up, the driver may not see him or her.
- Have your child use a backpack or book bag to keep loose items together.
- Check to make sure clothing and backpacks don’t have loose drawstrings or long straps that can get caught in the handrail or bus door.

If you think a bus stop is in a dangerous place, you can talk to the school office or transportation director about changing the location.
Stormwater Pollution
How you can help:
-- The best way to reduce stormwater pollution is to stop it at its source. Remember that pollutants flushed down storm drains directly affects the quality of our waterways and could possibly make them unsafe for boating, fishing, swimming, and other water related activities.
-- Don't work on your car in a place where oil and grease could be washed into street gutters. Used motor oil should be contained and taken to a collection center. Most automotive shops provide this service.
-- Grass clippings should be bagged and disposed of with yard waste. Dumping grass clippings down a storm drain can slow stormwater flow and clog the drains.
-- Pet dropping should not be discarded into storm drains or left in the yard. Clean up pet droppings and dispose of them in trash bins, or in the toilet.

Helpful Websites for Seniors
• The website site SeniorGuidance.org is a great resource for assisted living information for seniors and families. Please feel free to visit their site at https://www.seniorguidance.org/assisted-living.oklahoma/ for more information.
• The Salvation Army of OKC has numerous programs for seniors. These programs include health clinics, transportation and hot lunches. Please feel free to visit their site at http://salvationarmyokcac.org/senior-programs/
• The website Benefits Check Up was founded by the National Council on Aging and their website can help identify what benefits a senior is eligible to receive. Their site address is https://www.benefitscheckup.org/

Free or Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinics
A compassionate society knows there is a better way to solve overpopulation than needlessly euthanizing unwanted animals. Below is list of low cost spay and neuter clinics. If you need specific information regarding a particular spay and neuter clinic, please contact them directly. Please call and make an appointment for your furry friend today.

Central OK Humane Society 405-947-7729
Animal Wellness of OKC 405-896-2120
Spay Way 405-414-8142
Animal Birth Control Clinic 405-625-6574

Fire Safety Tips From Your Fire Chief
1. Be a fire-safe smoker
Smoking is the No. 1 cause of home fire deaths across the country. You can prevent fires caused by cigarettes and other smoking materials. Also, smoke outside, don’t smoke in bed and never smoke after taking medicine that makes you tired.

2. Test smoke alarms
Without a smoke alarm, you may not wake up from the smoke, and it can kill you in your sleep. This is why home fires are the most dangerous at night or when people are sleeping. Test your smoke alarms once a month.

3. Make sure you can hear your smoke alarm
The standard smoke alarm sound does not wake some people. If you cannot hear your alarm, you may need an alarm that has a different sound or one that comes with a bed shaker or strobe light.

4. Make an escape plan around your abilities
You may have less than three minutes to get out of your home if there is a fire. It is important to have an escape plan before a fire occurs, so everyone is prepared and ready to act.

5. Think about your needs
If you need to use a wheelchair or a cane, make sure you can get to them easily and get out quickly. If you wear a hearing aid or eyeglasses, put them next to your bed while you are sleeping. Have a phone near the bed in case of an emergency and know the local emergency number in case of a fire.

6. Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food
Use a timer to remind you that you’re cooking.

7. Don’t overload electrical outlets or extension cords

This newsletter is produced by City Hall and is included in each monthly billing according to municipal ordinance. If you have any articles comments, concerns or other Information that you would like to have appear in this newsletter please bring your information to City Hall, email the editors at newsletter@warracres-ok.gov or call City Hall at 405-789-2892. The newsletters will also be viewable on the city website at www.warracres-ok.gov including previous issues.