

**Spring-Summer
Edition
2019**

The 411 Newsletter

A Holland Police Department Informational Publication

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**Created &
Distributed by
Holland Police
Department**

**27 Sturbridge Rd
Holland,
Massachusetts
05/30/2019**

Car Theft Suspects Charged

Holland: In the early morning hours on Thanksgiving 2018, thieves struck the town of Holland breaking into 21 vehicles and stealing 3. Police received calls from residents as they awoke to find that their vehicles were rummaged through and in some cases items were stolen.

Thieves also struck the Town of Wales during the same time frame. Wales had a total of 9 vehicles broken into and the crimes in the 2 towns likely occurred sometime between midnight and 5A.M. on November 22nd.

In the early morning hours of February 22nd, 2019, two

vehicles were stolen from a residence on Sandy Beach Rd and subsequently recovered in Hartford CT.



**Several vehicles were stolen
from Holland within 3 months**

All vehicles that were broken into were left unlocked and the vehicles stolen had the keys left in them. Items stolen ranged from wallets,

cash and change to small electronics and personal items.

After a lengthy investigation police announced on April 12th that they have criminally charged 2 male individuals in their 20's in relation to vehicles that were stolen on February 22nd, as well as a juvenile male in relation to the incidents on November 22nd, 2018. All suspects reside in Connecticut and it is believed they are a part of a larger group of individuals from the Hartford area who target unlocked vehicles for purposes of stealing them or stealing items from them.

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Prescription Medication Disposal

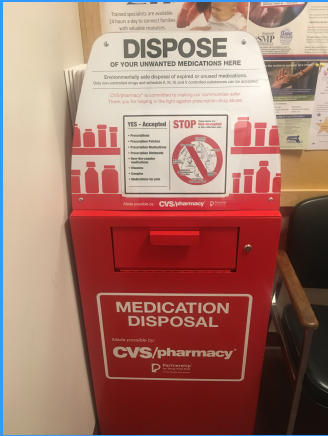
For the past several years the Holland Police Department has participated in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) nationwide, one-day collaborative prescription drug take-back initiative to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from homes.

This national initiative provides an opportunity for the public to surrender pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for destruction.

It has been proven over the years that expired, unused,

or unwanted controlled substances in our homes are a potential source of supply for the increasing abuse of pharmaceutical drugs in the United States and an unacceptable risk to public health and safety every day.

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The prescription drug disposal unit is located in the Police Station lobby to ensure easy and safe access for the public.

Items accepted are prescriptions, prescription patches, medications, ointments, over the counter medication, vitamins, samples and pet medication.

Disposal Unit

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As a result of the magnitude of unused prescription drugs the Holland Police Department has collected at these one day events, it became clear that we needed a more long term solution.

Last month, the Holland Police Department teamed up with the Jennifer Mott, Holland Outreach Coordinator, Holland's Counsel on Aging, and CVS Pharmacy to install a permanent medication disposal unit at the Police Station.

The unit is located in the Police Station lobby to ensure easy and safe access for the public.

items accepted are prescriptions, prescription patches, medications, ointments, over the counter medication, vitamins, samples and pet medication.

The collection unit does not accept hydrogen peroxide, inhalers, aerosol cans, ointments, lotions or liquids, thermometers, needles or medications from businesses or clinics.

Our citizens can easily access this disposal unit any time during regular Town Hall business hours or any time the Police Station is open to the public.

Trail and Hiking Safety Tips

The Town of Holland is home to several recreational trails that the public can utilize for hiking, walking and biking, including the Quinebaug Woods, Leadmine Wildlife Area, Lake Siog Recreation Area and the Lake Siog Pass Trail, just to name a few.

Although construction and maintenance of most of these trails are overseen by the Holland Trails Committee and the Army Corps of Engineers, dangers may still exist, especially when utilizing these areas alone.



According to the USDA Forest Service of Washington DC, the most effective way to prevent mishaps is to adequately prepare for the trip. Knowledge of the area, weather, terrain, limitations of your body, plus a little common sense can help to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip.

It's a good idea to travel with a companion, be in good physical condition, think about your footing while traveling, wear appropriate clothing, check your equipment, be weather wise, learn basic first aid, make camp before dark, and be alert to slippery areas.

According to the USDA a few other important things to think about when hitting the trails that can help ensure your safety is to start out slowly and gradually increase your pace and distance. Warm up to gradually increase your heart rate and temperature. Leave your itinerary with family and friends to help first responders locate you if needed and develop an emergency plan if needed. It is also important to drink plenty of water and take frequent rests.

You should also pack the essentials and be prepared for injury and sudden unexpected weather changes. You should pack extra clothing and rain gear to stay dry, bring a compass, a first aid kit, extra food and water and a flashlight. Its a good idea to bring foil to be used as a signaling device if needed, insect repellent, a pocket knife, sunscreen, waterproof matches or a lighter , a blanket and a whistle to alert for help and to scare off animals.

Whether you're roughing it in a tent or planning a family outing to a national forest there are many ways to make sure your experience is fun and safe.

Remember to stay warm and dry, stay on the trail and develop a plan beforehand by mapping out your adventure and adhering to common sense safety measures.

Car Theft Subjects

Charged

Continued from Page 1.

It is known to Law Enforcement that these individuals systematically target unlocked vehicles looking to commit these crimes.

Officials continue to urge the public to lock their vehicles while unattended. It is believed that all the vehicles broken into were unlocked at the time of

“If you carry a key fob do not leave it in your vehicle your vehicle”

the incident and at least 4 of the 5 vehicles stolen had the keys left in them. Police are recommending that the public take precautions to safeguard their property by locking doors and closing all windows in their vehicles when left unattended, especially when parked overnight.

Police are also recommending to remove loose change, cash, wallets, pocket books and credit cards from vehicles when unattended as well as removing all keys.

“If you carry a key fob do not leave it in your vehicle and be sure to place it a distance away from your vehicle when inside your home” Police urge.

Some models have a range where the vehicle can start and run even if in close proximity to the vehicle.

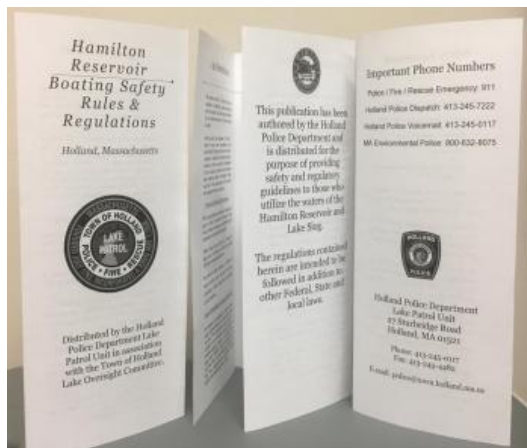
Police would like residents to consider installing proper lighting around their property if needed. Motion detecting lights are a deterrent to criminals.

As always the Holland Police is encouraging the public to report any and all suspicious activity witnessed.

Boating Safety Tips and Town

By Laws

The Town of Holland is home to the Hamilton Reservoir which the Police Department patrols on a regular basis during the summer. Members of our Lake Patrol Unit are specially trained in Massachusetts boating laws and regulations, along with water safety and rescue.



The goal of the unit is to provide the safest environment possible for Holland residents and their guests while enforcing the rules and regulations set forth by the town and by statute.

The unit is also part of our on going community policing plan by making our Officers more visible and allowing the public greater access to them. The Town of Holland owns a 2016 Crestliner [Marine 1], which is

specially outfitted for the purpose of police patrol as well as rescue operations.

Recently, the Town voted to accept a revamp of our By Laws related to Recreational use of Inland Waters which was created and presented by the Holland Police Department at a Town Meeting in 2017 after careful consideration and consultation with members of the Lake Oversight Committee. The rules contained in the By Law were enacted for the purpose of guiding those who utilize for recreation the inland waters of the Town of Holland by establishing regulations in order to ensure safety and to maintain the integrity of the water and its surroundings. Careful thought was put into these By Laws and consideration was given to those who live on the Hamilton Reservoir while attempting being as fair as possible to all. Clearly, those who live on the water may have different priorities than those who do not.

The By Law is designed to promulgate local regulations and restrictions to be utilized in addition to statutory regulations, not in place of. Some important statutory laws that are still strictly enforced are that no person under 12 years of age may operate a motorboat unless accompanied on-board and directly supervised by a competent person 18 years of age or older, persons less than 16 years of age are prohibited from operating a PWC, all vessels in operation shall be registered appropriately in accordance with the law and life preservers are required to be worn by persons less than 12 years of age, personal watercraft users and water-skiers.

Some local statutes that are still strictly enforced on the waters of the Hamilton Reservoir outline that all power-driven vessels shall travel in a counter clockwise direction. All power-driven vessel speed shall be limited to no greater than 10 MPH until 11:00 am on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays, no vessel shall tow more than two persons simultaneously who are engaged in water skiing or who are in tow in any other manner, all vessels engaged in towing persons who are water skiing or who are in tow in any other manner shall be occupied by an observer, other than the operator, at least 12 years of age, who shall be constantly observing the persons being towed and no person operating a Personal Watercraft [PWC] shall tow any person in any manner.

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Boating Safety Tips and Town By

Laws

Continued from Page 3

All vessels shall be operated in a safe and courteous manner while maintaining safe speeds and distances. No person shall operate any vessel or PWC in a manner which fails to exercise the degree of care necessary to prevent the endangering of life, limb, or property of any person.



No person shall operate in a negligent manner, which includes at a speed of greater than 45 mph, erratically or at a high speed in a congested area, in fog or stormy conditions, while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and near or through areas that are being utilized by swimmers or divers.

Holland PD & Team Hoyt Team up for Stop Abuse Today, Inc

The Holland Police Department is once again proud to partner with Team Hoyt to co-sponsor our 3rd annual road race in support of Stop Abuse Today, Inc.



This years race will be a "Trifecta" [your choice of participating in a 5K, 10K or Half Marathon], and will be held on Saturday, October 5th, 2019.


Stop Abuse Today, Inc is a 501 c 3 nonprofit whose purpose is to support abuse victims and their families. Their primary objective is to provide education, awareness, outreach and support concerning domestic abuse, elder abuse and bullying among our youth.

The organization does not receive direct funding from municipal or government agencies and are reliant on donations and grants in order to operate. Proceeds from this event will be donated to Stop Abuse Today, Inc.

Please visit their website stopabusetoday.org for more information.


Upcoming Events

Join us for our 3rd Annual Race Event to kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month




STOP ABUSE TODAY INC.
"TRIFECTA"
 (5k, 10k, Half Marathon)
Saturday October 5, 2019
 Holland Elementary School
 28 Sturbridge Road - Holland, MA 01521
 8:00 a.m. Start - Half Marathon. 9:00 a.m. Start - 5K and 10K.

You may register online to run, volunteer or sponsor this event.
<https://event.racereach.com/stop-abuse-today-5k-10k-13.1/register>



SCAN THE QR CODE
WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE





TO GO TO THE
REGISTRATION LINK

Mission Statement

Stop Abuse Today Inc is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to support abuse victims and their families. Our primary objective is to provide education, awareness, outreach, and support concerning domestic abuse, elder abuse, and bullying among our youth. The group strives to develop partnerships with our school systems and our public safety officials, as well as other community groups, and local and state government leaders.

www.stopabusetoday.org

This event is sponsored by the Holland Police Department in association with Team Hoyt.

Battle of the Badges Blood Drive: Friday, June 7th, 2019 @ the Holland Community Center. Holland Police vs. Holland Fire.

5th Annual Carl Beane Memorial Softball Tournament: Sunday, June 9th, 2019 @ Hitchcock Field. In association with Holland Police-Fire-Municipal Offices and Diane's Villa Nova

Town Elections: Tuesday, June 11th, 2019 @ the Holland Community Center.

Elder Abuse Awareness Day: Saturday, June 15th @ the Holland Community Center, sponsored by Stop Abuse Today, Inc.

Concert for a Cause to benefit Stop Abuse Today, Inc: Sunday, September 22nd, 2019 11AM-&7PM @ Diane's Villa Nova of Holland.

Stop Abuse Today, Inc Trifecta: Saturday, October 5th, 2019 @ the Holland Elementary School. Sponsored by the Holland Police Department and Team Hoyt.

Event dates times and locations are subject to change without notice.