



# Jersey Village Star



March 2011

## Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills. The program focuses on areas in fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. If you are not active in the community and would like to be, the CERT team in Jersey Village would love for you to join them. Classes are held throughout the county and here in Jersey Village during our Citizens Fire Academy (CFA) held yearly. For more information please contact Jersey Village Fire Department at 713-466-2130.

### Statistics for January 2011

#### JV Police Department

|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Calls for Service   | 1083 |
| Vehicle Theft       | 2    |
| Aggravated Assault  | 1    |
| Burglary, Business  | 2    |
| Burglary, Residence | 1    |
| Burglary, Vehicle   | 6    |
| Disturbance         | 45   |
| Narcotics, felony   | 2    |
| Minor accidents     | 159  |
| Major accidents     | 32   |
| Alarms              | 115  |
| Suspicious person   | 129  |
| Traffic control     | 1    |
| Traffic hazard      | 20   |

#### JV Fire Department

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Building Fires                 | 5  |
| Auto Fires                     | 0  |
| Other Fires                    | 3  |
| Rescue/EMS incidents           | 54 |
| Hazardous Conditions           | 2  |
| Service Calls                  | 4  |
| Smoke or odor calls            | 1  |
| False alarms/cancelled enroute | 17 |
| Total Ambulance Transports     | 40 |

### Important City Phone Numbers

|                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Emergency Call                       | 911          |
| Main Number                          | 713-466-2100 |
| City Manager                         | 713-466-2108 |
| City Secretary                       | 713-466-2102 |
| Fire Dept.                           | 713-466-2130 |
| Police Dept.                         | 713-466-2123 |
| Permits                              | 713-466-2110 |
| Public Works                         | 713-466-2133 |
| Code Enforcement<br>& Animal Control | 713-466-2129 |
| Water Billing                        | 713-466-2111 |
| Municipal Court                      | 713-466-2124 |
| Golf Course                          | 713-896-0900 |
| City Pool                            | 832-467-1032 |
| JV STAR                              | 713-466-2108 |

For more information visit  
[www.jerseyvillage.info](http://www.jerseyvillage.info)

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## Sgt. Sandy's Corner Who Has the Right-of-Way?

By: Sgt. S. Joachim

### *"Who has the right of way when passing a parked car?"*

Several streets are in question, including Village Dr. and Lakeview Dr. On several occasions the question has been brought up, "who has the right-of-way when vehicles are passing parked cars." The law states: **An operator MAY NOT drive on the left side of the center of the roadway in passing another vehicle unless:**

**(1) The left side is clearly visible and free of approaching traffic for a distance sufficient to permit passing WITHOUT interfering with the operation of the passed vehicle or a vehicle approaching from the opposite direction.**

**(b) An operator passing another vehicle shall return to an authorized lane of travel: before coming within 200 feet of**

**an approaching vehicle or as soon as practicable.**

Now for the rest of us what does this say? If you wish to go around a vehicle, and your vehicle has to cross over into on coming traffic, you must wait until it is clear for you to pass. Anytime your vehicle crosses over the center of the roadway, into on coming traffic, the oncoming traffic has the right of way. Sorry - be mad, but we cannot change state law and unless the roadway is clear for you to pass the parked vehicle, you are in the wrong!

Learn more about safe driving, there are a number of ways to continue your education. Brush up on the "Rules of the Road". Get a copy of the driving handbook. Take a safe driving course. Try your insurance agent or your local auto club for more information on courses in your area. If you have any farther questions or concerns about safe driving, please feel free to contact Sgt. S. Joachim at 713-466-5824.

## Temporary Closures of Charles Street & Wright Road Due to Construction of Jones Road Extension

Jersey Village, Texas — As part of the Jones Road Extension Project, portions of Charles Street, that portion adjacent to where the Jones Road extension will intersect with City limits, are scheduled to be closed beginning February 28, 2011 through March 14, 2011 for road transition related to construction activities. Message signs with these dates have been posted along the north side of Charles Street in two different locations.

There will be additional road closures at Wright Road and Charles Street at the intersections of FM 529. Informational signs have been posted at the entrance and exit points for both of these locations.

We urge all citizens to focus on safety in construction zones, observe posted speed limits, and observe construction zone signage. To avoid congestion and possible delays, motorists should consider using an alternate route. Nonetheless, traffic safety markers and signage has been posted along the construction route to safely guide drivers around the construction area.

The City appreciates your patience during this construction period as we continue to work to improve the mobility for our citizens.

For more information call the City of Jersey Village Public Works Department Project Management Division at (713) 466-2162.

## Meet Our New Chief of Police, Eric Foerster



**Birthplace:** Euless, Texas

**Family:** Wife, Amy Foerster and Son, Spencer Foerster

**Education:**

**Masters Degree Public Administration-** Bellevue University, NE

**Bachelor Degree Criminal Justice Administration-** Bellevue University, NE

**Associate Degree Criminal Justice-** Howard College, TX

**Police Academy-** Dallas Baptist University

**FBI-**Command College

Master Peace Officer

### **Career Experience:**

**Oct. 2010-Current** City of Jersey Village: Chief of Police

**Oct. 2008-Oct 2010** City of Vidor: Chief of Police

**May 2006-Oct. 2008** City of Colorado City: Chief of Police

**Sep. 2005-May 2006** Abilene Christian University: Police Officer

**Jan. 1994-Jun. 2004** San Angelo Police Department: Officer, Detective, FTO, Narcotics Task Force, Hostage Negotiator, Motor Officer, Crime Prevention, Recruiting, Backgrounds, Administration

**1993-1994** City of Marshall Creek: Police Sergeant/Asst. Chief of Police

**1989-1991** Falcon Aviation: Chief Pilot

**1987-1989** Pegasus Flight Center: Chief Flight Instructor

**Memberships:** Houston Area Police Chiefs Association, Texas Police Chiefs Association, and Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce

**Recreation/Hobbies:**

Golf, fishing, reading, photography, flying