

Woodlake Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Thanksgiving Issue

The publication of this newsletter is unofficial and does not reflect any opinion, directive, or policy of the Woodlake Property Owners Association members or Board of Directors.

The primary purpose of the newsletter is to convey information designed to assist us to reduce or prevent crime in our community.

The information presented is available through various public access sources, personal interview, or observation. Your comments as to how we can improve this effort are welcome.

It's the time of year we pause to reflect on how much we all have to be grateful. The Editor and Staff want to wish you all a "Happy Thanksgiving".

1. a. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted as of Nov 15th, 2014 - [http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd\(adult_probation/most_wanted.php](http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/departments/cscd(adult_probation/most_wanted.php) , and/or; <http://bellcounty.crimestoppers.com>;

The featured criminal-at-large from the Temple PD is: Larron Lockridge.



Lockridge is a 6' 1" B/M with Brown Eyes and Black Hair and weighs 169 lbs.

He is Wanted For:
Burglary of a Habitation
With Intent To Commit
Assault.

For additional information please review the latest wanted poster at: http://www.bellcountytx.com/departments/cscd%28adult_probation%29/most_wanter.php

Review attached file; If you have any information about these individuals, please call the Bell County Sheriff's Office at 254-933-5400, your local law enforcement, or CRIMESTOPPERS AT 1-800-729-TIPS (Local 526-TIPS). There is now an "on-line" crime reporting system for your convenience: http://71.6.170.26/revize/bellcounty/citizen_online_reporting_system/index.php

b. From Austin - Up to \$7,500 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of: Alfredo Rangle.



Wanted For: Parole Violation (Original Offenses: Aggravated Assault Of Public Servant, Aggravated Kidnapping, Aggravated Robbery), Larceny, Engaging In Organized

Criminal Activity, CCH: Aggravated Assault Of Public Servant, Aggravated Kidnapping, Aggravated Robbery, Theft Of Property, Theft Of Property Grave/Human Corpse LKA: 2302 Boulanger, Apt. 1, Laredo, TX.

Caution: Subject has ties with the Texas Mexican mafia gang, has violent tendencies and should be considered armed and

Details: In April 2000, Rangel and two accomplices were involved in a violent assault on a Texas DPS state trooper during a traffic stop on interstate 35 near Cotulla, Texas. The trooper's weapon was taken and the trooper was left on the ground with serious injuries.

Rangel was apprehended several days later and was convicted of aggravated assault of a public servant, aggravated kidnapping, and aggravated robbery, and received a 15-year sentence in TDCJ prison. He was paroled in January 2012.

On August 15, 2014, Rangel and two accomplices robbed a local casino in Laredo, Texas.

2. In The News: A Family Of Five Is Alive Today Thanks To A Working Carbon

Monoxide Alarm - Wednesday, October 29th shortly after 7:30 p.m., Temple Fire and Rescue responded to a residence in South Temple after the alarm activated and found the family safely outside their home.

The family had used their gas range earlier while preparing dinner. About an hour later, the alarm activated. The two adults and three children immediately went outside and called 9-1-1.

Firefighters used monitoring equipment and noticed increased levels of the deadly gas inside the home. Initiating a search, they located the source as the faulty natural gas range in the kitchen. After turning the range off and ventilating the house, monitoring equipment detected zero levels of the gas.

3. Holiday Fire Risk And Carbon Monoxide: CO, Is A Colorless, Odorless Gas That Can Cause Sudden Illness And Death

- CO is found in combustion fumes, such as those produced by cars and trucks, small gasoline engines, stoves, lanterns, burning charcoal and wood, and gas ranges and heating systems.

Although the popularity of carbon monoxide (CO) alarms has been growing in recent years, it cannot be assumed that everyone is familiar with the hazards of carbon monoxide poisoning in the home.

The dangers of CO exposure depend on a number of variables, including the victim's health and activity level. Infants, pregnant women, and people with physical conditions that limit their body's ability to use oxygen (i.e. emphysema, asthma, heart disease) can be more severely affected by lower concentrations of CO than healthy adults would be.

A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.

In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an

installation of CO detectors in new houses as an industry standard the number of reported incidents has increased 96%.

Temple Fire & Rescue along with other safety organizations offer the following tips to keep your family safe:

- Have your heating system, water heater and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters (catalytic) indoors. Although these heaters don't have a flame, they burn gas and can cause CO to build up inside your home, cabin, or camper.
- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall.

Electric Fires are usually caused by a circuit failure or electrical equipment malfunction.

In 2011, an estimated 47,700 home structure fires reported to U.S. fire departments involved some type of electrical failure or malfunction as a factor contributing to ignition, resulting in 418 deaths, 1,570 injuries, and \$1.4 billion in property damage.

Half (48%) of *reported non-confined home structure fires involving electrical failure or malfunction had some type of electrical distribution or lighting equipment involved in ignition. Interestingly, fans, washer or dryer, space heater, air conditioning equipment, water heater, or ranges each were contributing factors in only 3% to 6% of the total.

Lamps, light fixtures, bulbs, cords and plugs contributed from 20% to 6% respectively.

Yet, despite low incidence of fires caused by cords and plugs, they account for larger shares of deaths (30%) and injuries (21%).

Fires involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment, show a winter peak similar to that for heating equipment but less pronounced.

Halogen lights have a higher risk of fire than incandescent lights, which have a higher risk than fluorescent lights. Compact fluorescent lights now account for more than two-thirds of all fluorescent lights in residential usage.

Heating Equipment is involved in an estimated average of 53,600 reported fires, with associated losses of 400 deaths, 1,520 injuries, and \$893 million in property damage. These fires account for 14% of all reported home fires.

Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, account for one-third (33%) of home heating fires and four out of five (81%) of home heating fire deaths.

The leading factor contributing to home heating fires (28%) is failure to clean, principally creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.

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Placing things that can burn too close to heating equipment or placing heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding, is the leading factor contributing to ignition in fatal home heating fires and account for more than half (53%) of home heating fire deaths.

Half (50%) of all home-heating fires occur in December, January and February.

The Kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home. Cooking is, and has long been, the leading cause of home structure fires and home fire injuries.

During the *5-year study period, fire departments responded to an estimated average of 156,600 home structure fires in which cooking equipment was involved in the ignition or from a cooking fire that did not spread beyond the cooking vessel. Together, these fires caused an average of 400 deaths, 5,080 injuries, and \$853 million in property damage per year.

Safety Tips:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the

reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet.

- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Candles account for 10,630 house fires equivalent to 29 home candle fires per day, that caused an annual average of 115 deaths, 903 injuries, and \$418 million in property damage.

More than one-third (36%) of home candle fires start in bedrooms. These fires cause 39% of associated deaths and 45% of associated injuries. The 16% of fires that start in living rooms, family rooms, or dens caused one-quarter (24%) of the deaths.

Candle fires start with a variety of burnable items, such as a mattress or bedding, furniture or utensil, a curtain, blind or drapery.

Twelve percent of the home candle fires occur in December, 1.5 times the monthly average of 8% that usually involve combustible seasonal decorations.

The top three days for home candle fires are Christmas, New Year's Day, and Christmas Eve.

- Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Blow out candles when you leave a room.
- Keep candles up high out of the reach of children. Never leave a child unattended in a room with a candle. A child should not sleep in a room with a lit candle.
- Make sure candles are placed on a stable piece of furniture in sturdy holders that won't tip over. Place candles away from spots where they could be knocked over by children or pets.
- Candles should fit in the holders securely and holders should be made from material that can't burn.
- Extinguish all candles before going to sleep. As uncommon as they are, an estimated

annual average of 230 home fires sources are Christmas trees. Christmas tree fires result in an average of six deaths, 22 injuries, and \$18.3 million in property damage per year.

Christmas Tree Fires are more likely after Christmas than before; electrical failures or malfunctions were involved in one-third of these. One in six occur because some type of heat source was too close to the tree.

Decorative lights on line voltage are cause for 12% of these incidents and 7% are started by candles.

Oddly, 20% of home Christmas tree fires are intentionally set and usually occur in the 20 days after Christmas.

The risk of fire is higher with natural trees than artificial ones. Dry natural trees burn easily, however; trees that had been kept moist are unlikely to catch fire unintentionally.

These fires cause an average of 9 deaths, 16 injuries, and \$8.4 million in direct property damage per year.

Decorations tend to be the first items ignited in an estimated average of 920 reported fires per year. These fires cause an estimated average of 6 deaths, 47 injuries and \$12.9 million in property damage per year.

One-fifth of the home decoration fires occur in December. Nearly half of these fires occur because the decoration was too close to a heat source like a candle.

**(Disclaimer: These estimates are based on data from a five-year study (2007-2011) by the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA's) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA's) annual fire department experience survey)*

4. On The Horizon: Cyber Fraud - More Than Ever, With Increase On-Line Shopping, It Follows That Your Information Is Just As, If Not More Vulnerable. - In Past Issues The Discussion Focus Was About Physical Security; How Not To Be A Victim Of Thieves. In the next issue the topic will be protecting yourself and your family against cyber fraud during the Holidays.