



Volume 1, Issue 9.

October 7, 2011

Woodlake Property Owners Association Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

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 better improve this effort are welcome. Thank you, the Editor.

1. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted

<http://www.bellcountytexas.com/cscd/cscdwanted.htm>

Britney Nicole Fulks, a 21 y/o, 5'1", 104 lb, W/F with blue eyes and brown hair is wanted in Killeen for aggravated assault w/a deadly weapon. Also wanted by the Killeen Police are Samuel Fleming, a 5'9", 21 y/o, 142 lb, B/M with brown eyes and black hair for burglary of a habitation and Stanley Jones, a 31 y/o, 6'1", 150 lbs, B/M with brown eyes and black hair for DWI with a child passenger. Dustin Crume is a 24 y/o, 5'10", 140 lb, W/M with blue eyes and brown hair from Belton and is wanted for sexual assault. Our last fugitive at large is from Temple: 40 y/o, 5'8", 145 lb, John Henry Harris is a B/M with brown eyes and black hair wanted for injury to a child.

If you have any information regarding 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). **ALL CALLS WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.**

2. Crime Update -

Temple - A man is on the loose after robbing a Credit Union in Temple. This caused several TISD schools to lock down their facilities.

We now have new information about a man who robbed a Temple convenient store back in September. Police need your help locating this man, (see attached file).

Several cars were burglarized Tuesday morning, most being in south Temple. Read tips on how to protect your property.

Copperas Cove - The hunt is on for two men that robbed a woman while she was in her house Tuesday afternoon. A 17 year old has been arrested for Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child.

Killeen - Police are now searching for the man who robbed convenience store, and fired a shot in the air during the robbery. A Fort Hood soldier was arrested Thursday after he led police officers on a high-speed car chase through three cities. A Killeen woman is charged with burglary after several items stolen were traced through area pawn shops.

3. Woodlake 1st Annual National Neighborhood Night Out Celebration; A Consummate Success! -

A warm subtle breeze gently wafted the shelter that graced the display layout while chatty onlookers with curious inquisitive expression strolled past on their common quest for - FREE FOOD!

Ok, admittedly, I'm not the Walt Whitman of Woodlake but, if you missed Tuesday evening's Neighborhood Night Out - too bad. You missed the opportunity to meet our Community Oriented Police (COPS) representatives: Deputy Sheriff Sergeants De La Rosa and Smith and be entertained by the honey-smoked ginger vocal interpretations of the Eagles and Lynard Skynard, etc., by the duet Wild Horses. Mike & Angela Mahler hail from Moffat and are renowned local musicians. Their son, Wolf, is a Jr. at Belton High and is quite the athlete! Unfortunately, during a recent football game he incurred a concussion and a serious knee injury. Wolf is a talented musician in his own right. He has his own band and negotiating for a record label in Nashville. Not too bad for a 16 year old!

Pat Beard was present with trinkets and promotional materials to represent the Central Bell County Fire Department council. Pat and her husband Eddy have made a lot of sacrifices leading in the efforts to keep the dream for our own Sparta Valley FD alive.

Chief Mark Smith arrived with a smartly dressed crew and a freshly shined and polished Sparta Valley FD "Big Pumper", the highlight of the event, at least for all the kiddies that had the chance to climb into the cab to eww and awe over all the "bells and whistles". Next time you think about it or see Mark around be sure to say "Thanks". Mark, our resident Chief and currently, BOD member, is a true hero. Were it not for his support, diligence and perseverance the Central Bell County FD could well have been a "flash-in-the-pan" endeavor.

Perfect weather, great music, good food, fellowship, and a relaxed atmosphere where the ingredients that put the folks in the mood to hone their interest in Neighborhood Watch and Disaster Response.

Once I was momentarily able to break away from my display I used the time to interview Sgt. De La Rossa. Aside from the usual pleasantries our conversation centered on "Vacation Watch", how residence can be more active in the neighborhood watch effort by being more observant - the extended "eyes and ears" of the Sheriff's Department: "You'll never know unless you make the call that a Deputy Sheriff might be just down the street and can respond to check-out a suspicious vehicle, person, or situation". With one exception, most of Sgt. De La Rossa's comments are referenced from the COPS web-site (<http://www.bellcountytexas.com/Sheriff/13cops.htm>). To emphasize Sgt. De La Rossa's dedication one comment he did make piqued my concern. "Sometimes" he told me, "I'll drive an unmarked cruiser through the neighborhoods, maybe after dark, drive real slow up and down the streets or park in front of someone's home, just to see if anyone reports my suspicious



Volume 1, Issue 9.
October 7, 2011

Woodlake Property Owners Association Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

presence". To date, no one ever has. That's something on which we need to improve.

The feedback I've received about the Neighborhood Watch instructional CD has been nothing but positive. I hope that, those not already in possession of a copy, came around to get on from me. If you didn't and want a copy, let me know; I'll send or drop one off for you or you can access a copy at <http://woodlakeneighborhoodwatch.com/>.

My little "flea market" set-up of a typical "72 hour" emergency survival kit display received a lot of accolades.

Although I appreciated the positive comments my objective was to illustrate just how much "stuff" is needed to sustain a family under the worst possible scenario where your only chance for survival is to evacuate. I'm not suggesting that you'll only have seconds to prepare; maybe only hours though. So, at least take some time and identify what resources you already have, know where those are, and acquire those you might need. No need to spend a lot of money; with few exception, most of the articles are commonly used within the household.

Using the example of hurricane Katrina where several thousand did heed the warnings and escaped the flooding, thousands more refused or couldn't despite having several days' prior notice to pack-up and leave. Those who ignored the warnings learned the hard way not to rely on the local government to provide for and protect them.

Massive flooding from a hurricane for us is a pretty remote possibility but we are still vulnerable to earthquakes, pandemic (massive flu outbreak), cyber attack (loss of the entire power grid), and more disastrous, massive wild fires such as we witnessed in Bastrop. If you can get to a relief center with enough food, health, and comfort supplies for you, your family, and your pets that will reduce a great deal of the emotional stress you're bound to experience.

These are the basic components of a "72 hour" emergency survival kit: Food & Water - 1 gal/person/day (1/2 gal/pet/day), Freeze dried; pre-packaged, dehydrated individual servings like MREs are fine. Just check the shelf life and rotate your stores as necessary. Health & Hygiene, Prescription medications needed for an extended period/person, small squeeze bottle of liquid soap and one of chlorine bleach and/or iodine tablets (useful for sanitizing and purifying drinking water), a washcloth and towels, and lots of Zip Lock bags of various sizes (collection of plastic grocery bags are handy for refuse and sanitation). Comfort & Entertainment - Sleeping bags or blankets/pillows, games, puzzles, books to keep children entertained; a large tarp can be used to provide privacy and a make-shift shelter. For your information, the accompanied page

enumerates the common mistakes made putting together emergency survival kits. Keep your important papers, jewelry,

money, credit cards, travel checks/check book close-at-hand or secured together and ready to load.

4. On The Horizon -

The National Night Out event was a success in meeting our objective of raising the awareness of crime prevention and disaster preparedness.

A round of applause goes out to Debbie and Tom Kirwan - Debbie is the V.P. of the Central Bell County FD administrative council and principal coordinating the availability of the Sparta Valley fire truck and crew. Tom has been an active supporter of the community and asset getting the neighborhood watch program off the ground.

Thanks also to Mark and Jheri Lynn Smith for taking time out of their very busy schedules to help make our 1st annual Neighborhood Night Out a success. Jheri Lynn is a teacher at UMHB and working on her PHD. Among other things, Mark is a full-time cop at UMHB, the Central Bell Co. Fire Chief, a member of the WPOA BOD, and our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator.

A huge amount of gratitude are due to Glenda (Northam) Presley and her husband, Dave for putting the whole package together - the band, the food, the venue, and the guests of honor - Thanks you so much.

Success is a subjective noun measured in degrees of relativity. I weigh the degree of success, not to the density of the crowd, but from the enthusiasm and feedback from the guests. Our intent was for everyone to pass-through for a "meet'n-greet" so at anytime there never was a large "crowd" present. But, what I was able to assess from the attendance was the relative degree of interest the community places on a formal Neighborhood Watch initiative.

At any rate, we'll be moving on to the next step in revitalizing our existing program: Assignment of and training of Block Captains.

Over the next few weeks I'll be soliciting volunteer cadre and working with small groups of community leaders willing to reach-out among their neighbors in passing along their knowledge and insights to promote crime prevention.

Topics for discussion and consideration include: methods, means, and measures to provide training and information to the residence and what venue and when suits a mass gathering for a COPS presentation.

If you are interested (or just curious) about volunteering as a Block Captain you can e-mail me at: hlswaim@yahoo.com. Your participation will be appreciated but please have reviewed your Neighborhood Watch instructional CD.