

Woodlake Property Owners Association Neighborhood Watch Newsletter New Year's 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.

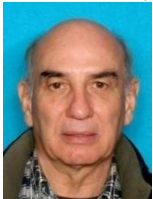
Now you can stay better informed on the most current local crime by visiting: <http://raidsonline.com/>

The Editor and Staff would like to wish you all a Happy and Fortuitous New Year, but mostly Best of Luck in 2013! Let's recycle last New Year's Resolution to help strive to make it a crime-free year, one day at-a-time.

1. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted as of: October, 2012:
[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) (No Change, See Previous Attached)

If you have any information regarding those 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)

Austin: Another Texas 10 Most Wanted Captured Sex Offender: **Lloyd Lester Gibson, III.** RACE: White SEX: Male DOB: 02/06/1945



HEIGHT: 5'8" **WEIGHT:** 200 lbs. **AKA:** Lloyd Gibson Jr, and Lloyd Gibson **SMT:** Scars on chest left shoulder, right elbow, and right shoulder TX01198308 **TDC #:** 00671319 **WANTED FOR:** Failure to Register as a Sex Offender and Parole Violations. **FBI #:** 142734F **SID #., CAPTURE LOCATION:** Austin, Texas.

DETAILS: On December 3rd, 2012, at approximately 12:30pm, Lone Star Fugitive Task Force members, while conducting surveillance, apprehended Texas Ten Most Wanted Sex Offender LLOYD LESTER GIBSON at the intersection of Congress and Oltorf in Austin, Travis County, Texas without incident. GIBSON was transported to the Travis County Jail by Lone Star Fugitive Task Force members and booked in on the warrants. <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/texas10mostwanted/>

2. Crime Update:

Gatesville - Nina Cole had entered a home in the 100 block of Sandy Lane thinking no one was inside. However, the homeowner's 19-year-old son was in the home, heard something and found Cole rummaging through the medicine cabinet. The son told her to leave and she obeyed. Cole was arrested for burglary of a residence on Thursday.

Killeen - Melvin Luciano was arrested Monday morning for burglarizing a home in the 3200 hundred block of Florence. A neighbor spotted someone going into the home and called police a little after 2 a.m. Police caught Luciano at the scene and immediately arrested him.

Copperas Cove - Police are searching for a suspect responsible for a 2:41 a.m Wednesday morning robbery at the 7-Eleven on the 2000 block of W. Ave B. After the suspect threatened the employee with a weapon, he fled on foot with an undisclosed amount of money. The suspect has been described as a Hispanic or light skinned black man wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt. Information can be made anonymously through the Copperas Cove Crime Stoppers tip number (254) 547-1111 or www.tipsubmit.com. (Source: KXXV.com)



3. Local Crime Data, Statistics, Analysis, Probabilities and Preventive Measures.

I've limited my study only to burglaries and home invasion events within a 5-6 mile radius of Woodlake; the more common preventable and pervasive crime of opportunity.

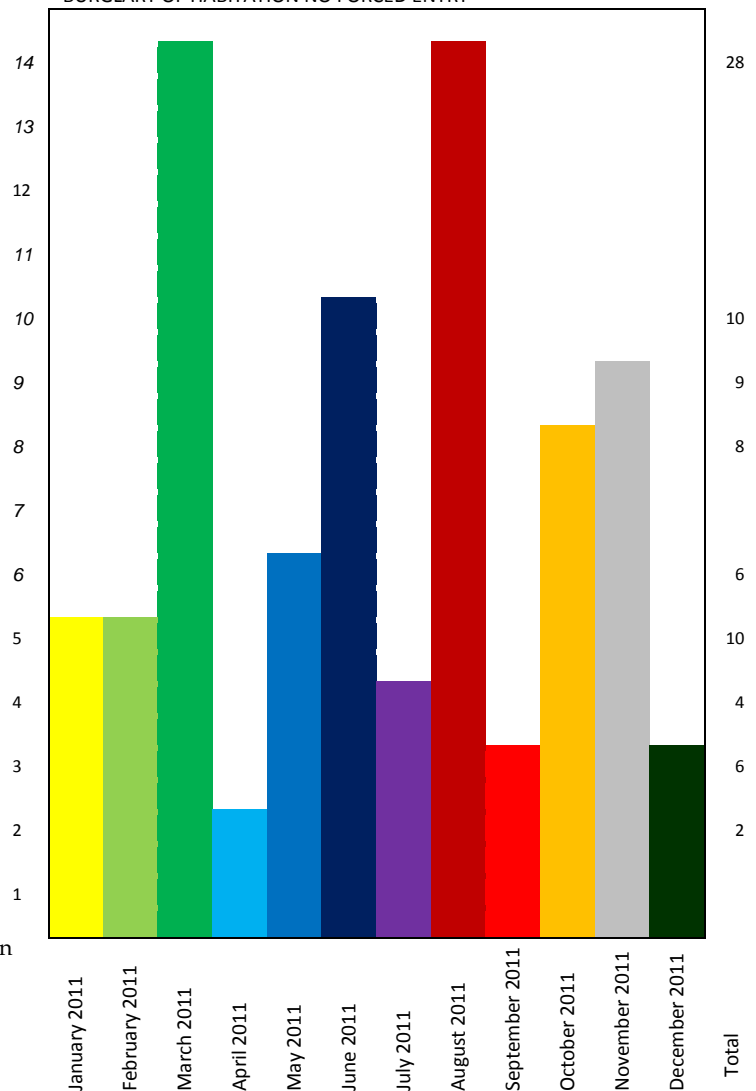
The raw data would suggest there has been a sudden local crime wave just over the past year. I've noted an increase of nearly 30% while the population growth in Bell County has maintained a steady 1.5% to 3.0% annual growth.

To what factors then, can be attributed to the up-tick in burglaries?

One would be cautious about putting too much certainty in the reliability of reporting by the victim as well as law enforcement and, compared to Killeen, Harker Heights, and Nolanville, the crime rates in general of Belton and our surrounding communities is significantly less.

For example - in a 2-week time period (December 01, 2012 - December 15, 2012) there were 45 reported home invasions/burglaries in Killeen (equivalent to approximately 2200/1000) but only 14 reported within a 5 mile radius of the City of Belton for the same period (approximately 950/1000; Temple burglary rate is approximately 1200/1000).

BURGLARY OF HABITATION NO FORCED ENTRY



Contrary to the stable, long-term residencies of retirees and working class and professional civilians in Temple and Belton, the transitional populace of Killeen is predominated by young military families that generate a high number of temporary vacancies.

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Getting to know your neighbors, their habits and schedules, leads to trust and cohesiveness fostering a mutually beneficial "looking-out for each other" attitude.

Research indicates that offenders generally use distinguishing environmental stimuli that function as cues to provide important information about the potential targets' relevant characteristics

Burglars have reported a preference for targets that exhibit "useful" characteristics, such as poor street lighting, lots of bushes obstructing entry points, and quiet streets, which may result in low levels of surveillability and an abundance of hiding places.

At the same time, certain environmental stimuli may serve as inhibitors to criminal activities. Burglars' decisions to offend against residences

seemed to be based primarily on environmental cues that were perceived to have immediate consequences. In the study, burglars assessed potential gains versus potential risks. The higher the perception of gain and the lower the perception of risk the greater the likelihood for an attempted burglary offense to occur.

Similar hypothesis have been developed regarding burglars' judgments and decisions about the likelihood of successful entry into and exit from a residence. Given an expectation of gain, environmental characteristics that act as cues to offenders to suggest an excess of risk should discourage burglars from offending in the immediate environment.

Simply put – the more deterrence the less likely you'll be a victim of burglary. In addition to installing dead bolt locks, "Charlie bars", and inventory and identifying your property with a PIN, having dogs, fences, clear fields of view or trimming shrubs (so as not to provide cover and concealment), security lights and alarm systems, Neighborhood Watch signs posted, and vigilant neighbors who are not bothered or inconvenienced to reporting suspicious activity, strange vehicles or persons wandering about are all devices that discourage would-be burglars. (Source: Bennett & Wright, 1984; Brantingham & Brantingham, 1978, 1981; Brown & Altman, 1981; Cromwell et al., 1991; Wright & Decker, 1994). (Letkemann, 1973; Phelan, 1977). Cromwell et al. (1991, p. 33) Brantingham and Brantingham (1981, p.65)

4. On The Horizon – Simple Measures to Improve Your Defenses Against Potential Burglars/Pandemic Review:

Finally, I've made the investment in a simply video surveillance system that was easy to install and simple to operate. I will present a summary review of its effectiveness after I've had a few weeks to become more familiar with the system.

Also, flu season is in full bloom. USAonWatch.com has published a Power Point slide show to train community leaders I will make available to everyone.

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