

Woodlake Property Owners Association Neighborhood Watch Newsletter
Martin Luther King Commemorative 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.

The editor and staff would like to take a moment to reflect upon the sacrifices and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King toward the betterment of our society.

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). Two of this month's criminals at large are wanted for assault - one to a child. Please review the attached flyer; 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: The reward on the whereabouts of **Jesus Alberto Villegas**, wanted for Sexual Assault of a Child, Felony Theft, and Prohibited Weapons Violation has been increased to \$17,500.



Race: American Indian. **Sex:** Male. **DOB:** 6/22/1979. **Height:** 5'11". **Weight:** 145 lbs. **AKA:** Pecas. **SMT:** Tattoo on back. **CCH:** Theft of property, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, driving while license suspended, prohibited weapons. **LKA:** 3110 Bickley, Abilene, TX. **Caution:** Subject should be considered armed and dangerous!

DETAILS: In August 1996, Jesus Alberto **VILLEGAS** became involved in an altercation with unknown subjects in Abilene, Texas, during which **VILLEGAS** was stabbed twice with a knife. On December 9, 1996, **VILLEGAS** and an accomplice were arrested in Fort Worth while in possession of a vehicle that had been stolen the previous day from a residence in Abilene. In 1997, **VILLEGAS** was arrested for Possession of a Prohibited Weapon after he was found in possession of a 15" sawed-off rifle, which had been concealed in the middle console of his vehicle. In 1998, **VILLEGAS** was charged with Sexual Assault of a Child. He absconded shortly after.

The Taylor County Sheriff's Office currently holds warrants for **VILLEGAS'** arrest for Felony Theft, Prohibited Weapons, and Sexual Assault of a Child. He was last seen in 1998 in Abilene.

<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/texas10mostwanted/>

2. Crime Update:

Killeen - Terry Grant Scott, 17, was taken into custody Tuesday and charged with murder of a Fort Hood Soldier, Austin James Sampson, 25, of New York, and attempted murder of 2 other men. Scott is accused of opening fire on three men in an SUV in the parking lot of the Star Mart convenience store at 1704 Old FM 440 on Wednesday afternoon. Sampson died at Scott & White hospital. The other two victims were rushed to Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center in critical condition. No motive for the shootings has been released.

Copperas Cove - Crystal Grace Paicely and Sara Louise Bryant are in custody and have been charged with aggravated robbery for stealing and fleeing the scene at McDonald's on December 30. The victim reported her wallet missing and was able to observe an outline of a wallet in the pants pocket of Bryant's clothing.

The victim twice attempted to prevent the suspects from leaving by blocking the exit door and getting in front of the vehicle they used. The vehicle was driven in an aggressive manner almost hitting the victim. The wallet was later recovered less its contents.

Gatesville - Austin Blake Botkin has been charged with burglary of a habitation and of a building. Neighbors reported the police on November 17th seeing Botkin removing property from the residence and out building. A warrant for Botkin was issued on January 3, and he was arrested Monday without incident. When questioned, Botkin confessed to the burglary, and much of the property has been recovered. (Source: KXXV.com)

3. Summary of Comparisons of Home Security/Surveillance Systems:

From the results of interview and research, I've assembled a chart that summarizes advantages (and disadvantages) of a variety of home security/surveillance systems. Here is a good place to start but if you're considering installing a home security system, do your own research to determine your needs.

In the mix of your requirements account for: Vulnerabilities (blind spots) and likely ingress points, fields of view and observation objectives, your experience and capabilities installing, operating and maintaining your system, supplemental components needed (alarms, motion detection electrical and battery powered lighting) and, of course, cost.

Pro: Con:

Subject #1	
Cost: moderate	Only 1 camera. All windows and doors are wired with an intruder alarm. Additional cameras would be greater expense.
Convenience: Simple function, front door can be unlocked either with the key or the key-pad.	Should have had a 2 nd control panel installed nearer the front.
Effectiveness: "Were I the burglar I would probably think twice before trying to break-in to this house. The sign alone would give me pause and consider moving on to the next house."	No back-up power available; when power is out system is down. The alarm company and the police are connected by "hard" line so they're not notified if the phone line is cut or inoperative.
Peace of Mind: "When away internet access allows ability to monitor wherever we have a connection. Local law enforcement is automatically called if the system isn't bypassed or overridden immediately.	"For complete confidence when we are away, in addition to vigilance by our neighbors, we rely on our dogs posing a threat to any potential burglar and supplementary security lighting is a must for early warning."
Overall rating: Good - Excellent. I think the sign announcing that we have a high quality alarm system installed is deterrent enough but for sake of my family's safety it's an assurance knowing that we have a highly reliable security system installed.	No prior experience with alarm systems so our depth of knowledge is limited. It's a great after-market system; however, my only recommendation is to have the house wired when it's in the construction phase.
Subject #2	
Cost: Minimal; all costs were absorbed in the construction loan. Monthly fees paid to the same company that installed the system are reasonable.	This is the best option but, a full capacity after market security system is cost prohibitive to most home owners. If we decide to change contracts the fee may go up and there are additional charges for new wiring.

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Convenience: Simple function; system is either on – active (at home or away), on – standby, or off.	If you haven't any experience using a full capacity security system, most difficulty is developing the habit of knowing when and that the alarm system is engaged. Some have "silent" alarm settings or on delayed activation that one must become familiar with not to have to be "charged" for false alarms.
Effectiveness: The system, cameras, motion sensors, alarms, controllers, monitors, keypads, door and window sensors are all installed, tested, and calibrated by specialists.	Problems are rare, nonetheless when they occur; the installing company must be consulted before any trouble shooting is performed, beyond the owners' scope of responsibility. It's difficult to re-wire/relocate any one camera once the system is installed. Without a security service contract, the system will provide onsite alarm only.
Peace of Mind: This is a good system that, I'm confident, is a dependable deterrent to potential burglars when we are away from the house. The optional active/passive operations allows for guests to come-and-go without alarms sounding yet still have recorded surveillance for wanderers.	No back-up power. Everything is powered by commercial electrical power so if there is a black-out and we're away, we have to rely on neighbors to keep an eye on things. I could have had the system wired so it could be powered by my generator, however; the generator doesn't automatically start when the power goes off.
Subject #3	
Cost: Minimal for wireless system.	System came with only two cameras.
Convenience: It's a self contained, simple set-up that comes with its own 10" monitor and base unit that doubles as a charger and "docking station" for internet connectivity. "I like being able to take the small monitor wherever I am in the house to monitor the front door".	Cameras work well inside or outside however, if used to view from inside to outside the video is obscured by the IR reflection/feedback from the glass pane. Placement of the camera has to be where there is access to an electrical outlet. If you're not a skill handyman, leave any rewiring or outlet installations to a professional. The battery doesn't have a very long life and the distance I can use the monitor from the furthest camera is limited.
Effectiveness: The system started working right away and free internet was provided for access through iphone, or PC. The base is the charging unit for the monitor which you have several options: select one camera, zoom to one of 5 quadrants or view recordings. The base is also the docking station. After finally getting help from the company, the on-line connection works good.	When connected, you can't change the monitors 4 pane option making the view very small; sometimes it's difficult to identify who/what is being viewed. The best antenna strength is line-of-sight so any walls that interfere reduce the range. For the best reception, "I placed mine in the center of the house (kitchen). For the internet an Ethernet cable is required so I had to use a router relay". The system will only support 4 cameras of a specific wireless type. The instructions for registering and activating the on-line video were difficult to understand and the companies had a back-log of inquiries over the holidays and were slow to respond. Internet connectivity is often interrupted or unavailable; the e-mail alert feature doesn't work very well.

Peace of Mind: This is a great system for the novice that when supplemented with additional cameras can ease some anxiety about being a burglary victim.	Any system that depends on commercial electrical providers is subject to failure. "I supplemented my security lighting with motion sensing battery operated security lights placed at the entrances and strategic locations throughout the house".
Overall Rating: Good to Very Good.	Poor connectivity limits availability of e-mail alerts – still have to advise neighbors when I'll be away from home.
Subject #4	
Cost: Moderate – High	Multiple cameras and recorders.
Convenience: Has multiple functionality; no monthly fee.	Difficult to install, manage and maintain; only for the most experienced with surveillance/security systems.
Effectiveness: Systems can operate either together, in multiples or independently providing maximum fields of view with video or still photo, audio, and internet connectivity.	No electrical power back-up; each system inoperable during black-outs.
Peace-of-mind: One or two cameras may not be sufficient deterrent but with two or more systems the monitoring both inside and outside with the ability to access any or the systems on-line for when we're not at home and/or record every activation event is an advantage. Even if one system fails the others are still available.	Connection speed is often slow and sometimes unavailable. Alarm system is not connected to an outside agency; I have to advise the neighbors that if I'm away to call the police if the alarm is set off if there is an intruder, or I have to call the police from my iphone.
Overall rating: Good – Very Good.	Better if connected to an outside agency that monitors the alarm and alerts the police.

Please review the attached supplementary document from a local homeowner with extensive experience and knowledge in home surveillance/security systems. A live feed can be viewed as an example of the of video surveillance effectiveness at:

www.woodlakeneighborhoodwatch.com

Be mindful that no single system is fool proof. Even a combination of video, audio, wired, wireless, lighting and alarms are vulnerable to failure due to black-outs. Outside agencies that monitor your system and respond to alarms are reliant on the phone line and are comparatively expensive.



4. On The Horizon –Despite the Precautions, This Season's Flu May Result in the Most Deadly Ever... Or, Not. Pandemic Review:

USAonWatch.com has published a Power Point slide show to train community leaders I will make available to everyone. It seems every season is projected to be worse than the last. In the next WPOA NW Newsletter, I will expose the hype, the myths, and the mystery forcing us all in believing the "end" is neigh.