



Volume 1, Issue 13.
December 18, 2011

Woodlake Property Owners Association Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Holiday Issue Merry Christmas!

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.

For this, the final issue of 2011 (can you believe it!) the staff want to wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Most Fortuitous New Year!

1. Bell County Sheriff Tip Line: Wanted

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

Four of our most recent outlaws this week hail from Temple: Three of these are wanted on suspicion of burglary of a habitation: 25 y/o, 5'-9" Charles Glass is a 190 lb w/m with blue eyes and black hair. 5'-11", 160 lb Jason Garcia is a 23 y/o, w/m with brown eyes and black hair and 20 y/o Javarrell Howard who is a b/m with brown eyes and black hair, is 5'-10" and 150 lbs.

Dawann McEntire is a 19 y/o brown eyed, black hair, B/F, also from Temple, is 5'-2", 109 lb and is wanted for robbery. Another suspect wanted for robbery, Kirby Hill, is 19, stands 5'-10" is a 190 lbs b/m from Harker Heights has brown eyes and black hair. The other person wanted for robbery is from Copperas Cove; 23 y/o, 155 lbs, 5'-10" w/m, brown eyed, brown hair, Joel Slovinski.

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 -

Copperas Cove - A man allegedly beats a victim up then assaults the woman who tries to help.

One of the men that was allegedly involved in a group assault earlier this month has been arrested.



Harker Heights - A man has received his sentence after he intentionally burned his 8-month old child with boiling hot water



3. Holiday Cheer and.... EARTH QUAKES ?!!!

You'd be right in thinking "What an odd topic for the Christmas season Neighborhood Watch Newsletter."

Nothing stimulates my sense of Good Will toward Men and respite verses of Silent Night more than a good old teeth-jarring, cabinet shaking earth quake. After all, when was the last time you were sitting in your car or wakened in the middle of the night to a tremor so disturbing you were convinced the end-of-times was upon us? Duh.... Probably - NEVER! But, unless you've experienced the devastation from nature's most destructive force first hand, then you'd have difficulty describing how unsettling an earthquake can be. On-the-other-hand, just because I've lived most of my life in the Midwest but have yet to actually witness a tornado doesn't make me any less vigilant or dismissive of their high probability or their destructive force.

We've been fortunate. The last recorded tremor in this area was.... Well, I couldn't find any, yet surprisingly a tremor in the magnitude range of 2.7 occurred throughout the northern part of the state as late as last week (on December 7th). That apparently, isn't that unusual because there have been an average of 2-3 earthquakes per month ranging from a magnitude of 2.0 - 3.0 on a band from Amarillo, Oklahoma City, to Little Rock for the past several years or more.

One of the worst recorded Texas earthquakes occurred in August, 1931 near the town of Valentine. There were no fatalities and because it took place very early in the A.M., there were few injuries. Some older wooden and adobe structures were severely damaged but otherwise some smokestacks tumbled and retaining walls and foundations sustained cracks.

Despite the growing urban populations and suburban creep, as few as 1000 deaths are attributed to earthquakes annually. Engineering and construction of modern buildings designed to withstand as much as magnitude 8 in earthquake prone zones, heightened awareness, earthquake forecasting and advanced warning have contributed to this relative low death-rate.

Most earthquakes go unnoticed and often unreported because their intensity is so minimal as to cause little damage if any at all. That the frequency of earthquakes across the globe is increasing is a myth owed to an increase in seismic measuring devices, digital technology, and access to near instantaneous information and reporting. By the same token, geologist and seismologist are better able to predict probabilities of where and when an earthquake will occur and, based on logarithms and trend analysis determine if early tremors are indicative of a more severe magnitudes and the breadth of aftershocks.

Having never witnessed a tornado doesn't change the probability of one occurring regardless of where I might be. Likewise, earthquakes can happen anywhere but because subterranean forces, contrary to tornados, are never influenced by daytime surface temperatures thus can occur at any time, day or night, and can be as severe as the one that struck Los Angeles in 1994.



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Coping with an earthquake or any natural disaster or emergency requires planning. An earthquake is frightening enough on its own and even people who know what they should do still might suffer a moment of panic.

During an earthquake, most deaths are a direct result of buildings collapsing, heavy objects falling (bookcases, large appliances, cabinets, etc.) or explosions from ruptured gas or waterlines.

Here are some guidelines to follow during your earthquake preparedness:

- For protection from falling objects, get under a table or desk
- If you do not have a table or desk near, cover your head and face.

You also need to do one of two things: either stand or crouch in a sturdy doorway or find an inside corner of the house and brace yourself there.

Establishing priorities ahead of time will help in coping with an earthquake later on. If you should have to leave the house, decide what you can carry with you. Create an evacuation plan and take your family through it step by step, discussing the details of each room and what needs to be done. Always have a plan B and a secondary means of escape, should the first route fail. Draw a map and note where you keep emergency supplies, extra food, water, first aid kits and fire extinguishers. Find out how to shut off the utilities. You may not have time during an actual earthquake, but this information is good to know, as it might prevent other potential disasters. Pick a spot outside of the house where your family will meet. This will enable you to count heads if anyone is missing.

Aside from getting you and your family to safety, you will need a list of emergency numbers and other important information kept in a safe place. Telephone numbers of the police department, fire department and hospitals should top the list. You will also need the numbers of your various insurance and utility companies. Write down specific medical information, including allergies to specific medications or other existing medical conditions you or a family member might have.

4. On The Horizon -

The more time I've had to ponder the principles and concepts of Neighborhood Watch I've settled on the reality that a passive, more domestic approach to soliciting greater participation is more fitting to the personality of our community.

Less the traditionally styled "blocks" that would otherwise define the boundaries to assign responsibilities, more appropriately managers will be identified to represent "cells" comprised of 5-6 households.

The proposed agenda for advanced Neighborhood Watch Leadership training and cell managers - training the trainers remains as follows:

- Purpose, objectives, and functions of NWP.
- Sources materials and references.
- Interaction - surveys, interviews, and feedback.
- Problem identification and resolution.
- Threat response and reaction.
- Techniques of observation and reporting.

Prerequisite for participation in the Advance Neighborhood Watch Leadership Training is to have completed all 5 instructional units of the Woodlake NWP CD. Please let me know if hadn't received your copy.

I'll be in touch.