



Neighborhood Watch Program

Forum Presentation

June 27th, 2011



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

The Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) started out in the Communications Committee. We were charged with the task of looking at neighborhood signage, age, effectiveness and any additions as necessary.

Trespassing by lake fishermen necessitated signage at the lake perimeter. Other areas of consideration were also noted.

The program was then blended into the Community Relation Committee. Carol Barber, Chair of the CRC, and I wrote a NWP proposal for the HOA Board consideration. The Board accepted the proposal in September 2010.

As the NWP progressed it was realized there was more need than “fit” the CRC so the NWP was formed as its own taskforce in October 2010.

Current Members are: Tony Del Sardo, Lyle Ganucheau, Dave Kittelson, Sheldon Maxwell, Gene Reddell, Roger Valdez and Donald Velazquez. Bob Stockinger, Program Manager and Bill Burdick, Board Representative.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) was established to provide a method of disseminating pertinent safety and legally recognized information between the City of Pearland, the HOA Board/Committees and the residents of BellaVita. Program goals include, but are not limited to, identifying, reporting and initiating appropriate corrective action on real or potential safety hazards in and surrounding the BellaVita community.

THE PEARLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT (281.997.4100)

Prior to the formation of the NWP I attended the Pearland Citizen's Police Academy, graduating in April 2011. This was a 13 week, 42 hour session at the Pearland Police Department. Attending that class gave me an inspiration into helping the PD when I could and being more informative to the needs of the BellaVita subdivision.

Working as a volunteer at the Pearland Police department gave me much insight as to the workings of the PD and I got to meet very interesting people during these classes.

I learned about the Home Alarm Registration requirement effective 5/1/2011 and provided forms for registration to BellaVita residents.

I was able to obtain a police report on the Scarsdale fence crash at the PD without delay and without a lot of paperwork requirements.



I met Personal Property/Home Inspection Officer Mike Pace and encouraged home inspections for safety and possible insurance reductions. Learned about the crime watch sign and ordered one for the BellaVita entrance drive.

Ordered no trespassing signs for the lake area and have called the PD, and encouraged other citizens to call, whenever they see outsiders fishing in our lake.

The Pearland Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association:

This class teaches basics of the Police Department procedures. After graduation the PCPAAA members and the police officers work together on different projects.

The PCPAAA :

Allots money to the PD for equipment purchases .

Aids in traffic control for parades , car accidents and other necessary occasions.

Helps work the Tots for Tots programs.

It works the food bank at holiday times.

Provides on call services 24/7 for Pearland emergencies.

Has dedicated teams who patrol Pearland business parking lots looking for handicapped parking violations. Through April, 2011 the PD has collected fines totaling \$20,295.

Aids the PD Records Section on different mailing projects.

Publishes a monthly newsletter apply called "The Rap Sheet" that lists future and past events that involve Pearland residents, such as parades, concerts, National Night Out, award banquets,

Numerous BellaVita residents have joined and gone through the Citizen's Police Academy. I encourage anybody that wants to contribute to Pearland and the BellaVita community to join for the upcoming session starting August 4th.



CITY OF PEARLAND (cityofpearland.com)

Solicitation/Solicitor Requirements: Solicitors in the City of Pearland must have a permit to solicit anywhere in the city. However, since we have private streets and are a gated community, other rules apply. Even with the required permit, since we have private streets and a sign indicating “private streets/no soliciting” at the front entrance, solicitors can and will be arrested if the Pearland PD is called.

The NWP contacted the city and asked about, and obtained, blue marker tabs for the roadways marking fire hydrant locations. More tabs are needed and calls have been made to the Public Works Department.



BELLAVITA INFORMATION / NWP UPDATES

The NWP has published numerous articles in the weekly newsletter for citizen information. These include:

House Alarm Letter – Who to call for repairs and to update call lists, etc.

PD Alarm Registration Forms

How to handle car accidents

Computer Safety

Fisherman/Lake Procedures

Pet Safety

Need for BV stickers on all cars and trucks

Ant/Termite Dangers

Alarm Testing

Officer Mike Pace Home Inspections



OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The NWP was instrumental in getting more lighting on the BellaVita entrance sign. Steve installed this lighting at very little expense to the community.

The NWP and Facilities Committee are in the process of replacing 24 rusted and faded stop signs. Money has been allocated by the board for purchase of the signs.

We were instructed how to re-attach the gate arms when they are knocked down.

NWP purchased truck door magnetic "watch" signs to show outsiders the existence of a Neighborhood Watch Program.

Bella Vita 06/20/2010- 06/19/2011

ALARM BURGLARY	92
LOUD NOISE	12
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	10
THEFT PAST	5
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	4
INFORMATION	4
TRESPASS IN PROGRESS	4
WELFARE CONCERN	4
ALARM PANIC OR HOLDUP	2
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY POLICE	2
CREDIT CARD ABUSE	2
DEATH INVESTIGATION	2
FAMILY VIOLENCE	2
911 HANG UP	1
ACCIDENT HIT AND RUN	1
ANIMAL CONTROL	1
BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	1
CIVIL MATTER	1
CPS REFERRAL	1
CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITY	1
FORGERY PAST	1
HARASSMENT	1
IDENTITY THEFT	1
SUICIDE ATTEMPT	1
THREATS PAST	1
TRESPASS PAST	1
Grand Total	158

Helping Yourself/Your Neighbor/Your Subdivision

Fill out the Home Security Worksheet and make home safety corrections as necessary. In conjunction, you can call Officer Mike Pace at 281.997.4171 and have him inspect your home. This service is free.

If you don't have a BellaVita car ID sticker, obtain one at the clubhouse. These stickers identify you as a BV resident. Cars without the stickers are then noted as belonging to outsiders.

Always be observant of your surroundings and report suspicious activity to the Police Department. (Emergency – 911); (Non-emergency 281.997.4100)

As repeated from above, call, enroll and become a better informed, more involved person by attending the Pearland Citizen's Police Academy.

Be alert of your neighbor's home if they are away on vacation, etc.

Please observe the speed limit and use your turn signals for safety and consideration of your neighbor.

Don't wear expensive jewelry when you go shopping, lock your car, do not leave valuables in plain sight in the car. In other words, don't tempt the bad guys.

Make sure your home alarm is in good working order. Be sure to replace your smoke alarm batteries every six months.