

Country Brook and Stacy Ridge Safety Committee Meeting Minutes February 19, 2008

Attendees:

Sergeant Jon Felty – Allen Police Department
2 Citizens on Patrol members
Diane Knaack - Turnberry Block Captain
Shannon Smittle - Brookcrest Block Captain
Courtenay Hansen - Country Brook South Block Captain
Lori Kruzich - Country Brook Safety Committee Chair
Paula Tengram - Vinecrest Block Captain
Judy Henley - Stacy Ridge Safety Committee

Agenda:

1. Update from Allen Police Department – Sergeant Jon Felty

Allen will participate in Texas “National Night Out” on October 7th this year. Sergeant Felty reported that 2007 total crime statistics were down 7.8%. The following types of crimes saw a decrease from 2006:

- Sex offenses (down 25%)
- All types of theft (down 10%)
- Burglary of Motor Vehicles (down 32%)
- Motor vehicle theft (down 21%)
- Criminal Mischief (down 23%)

Now, for the bad news. The following crimes saw an increase in 2007:

- Aggravated Assaults (up 20%)
- Simple Assaults (up 22%)
- **Burglary of Habitation (up 33%)**
- Burglary of Building (up 5%)
- Mental commitments (up 3%)

Sergeant Felty gave us some tips for being proactive in fighting crime in our neighborhood:

- Keep your garage door closed when you are not in it. 60-80% of burglars enter through the garage and most burglaries of homes take place during the day.
- Be a NOSY NEIGHBOR! Watch out for unusual activity and report it to the APD.
- Get a dog! Burglars are less likely to enter a home with a loud barking dog.

- Store valuables out of sight and in unusual places. Burglars are looking for small items like jewelry, firearms, cash, and papers that contain information about your identity. They usually don't take the big things like TV's and computers.
- Remove or hide all valuable items (laptops, cell phones, iPods, gaming systems, etc.) from your car and keep it locked.

Sergeant Felty said that the APD is getting busy due to the growth in the area and that we have to work together to keep Allen a safe and desirable place to live. The Citizen's Police Academy is a great way to get involved in our community and support the police department. The next session starts on March 6 and runs for 12 weeks. For more information, go to www.acpaaa.org or www.cityoffallen.org/police.

REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO CITY OF ALLEN POLICE DEPARTMENT AT 214-509-4321 or CALL 911 IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.

2. Safety Committee Planning for 2008 – Safety Committee members

McGruff Houses

Judy reported that Stacy Ridge has two new McGruff houses:

1805 Country Brook- Jay and Jenn Meldrum

1709 Versailles- Paul and Debbie Berger.

We would like a few more McGruff houses in Country Brook. The members talked about the importance of educating our neighborhood kids about the McGruff house program. Lori will contact Lovejoy Elementary to see if they could help us out with this task.

Lovejoy Elementary Construction - note from Lovejoy ISD regarding construction:

One item that we'd appreciate the community's support is making certain that children understand that construction sites are hard-hat zones for a reason - there are hazards at the site that could result in injuries if children choose to play in a construction area. While precautions such as temporary construction fencing have been put in place to restrict access to the construction areas for only authorized personnel, we also understand that big machines and big piles of dirt may look like a great play area to a child.

Donna Washburn
Director of Operations
Lovejoy ISD
469.742.8037

Neighborhood Safety

We talked about the need for more lights in Country Brook. We will encourage residents to keep their front lights on all night to help with this issue. We also discussed the possibility of adding more common area lighting with some of the safety budget this year. Lori will follow-up with the HOA Board and the City of Allen.

Speeding continues to be a problem on Country Brook Lane and Prescott. The APD will have the speed trailer on Country Brook in the next few weeks. Also, it is state law to stop for pedestrians using the crosswalk on Country Brook and Knoll Court.

National Night Out

We talked about doing something similar to last year's NNO event with Stacy Ridge. Planning for this event will start in the summer. (Date is October 7th 2008)

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Kruzich (Country Brook Safety)
Tania Rippy (Stacy Ridge Safety)