

## Holiday Lights Contest

We will be having our usual holiday lights contest again this year. The houses with the most attractive lighted holiday decorations, as judged by the board of directors, will win prizes ranging from a year of free homeowner's dues to a gift card redeemable at a large local retailer. So if you're interested, make your home look nice for the holidays and the judging will be held on Sunday, Dec. 12.

## Don't be a Victim

There have been crimes in our neighborhood, including burglary of a residence, vehicles, and a mailbox. Because our neighborhood is generally safe, it's easy to become complacent and think you don't need to worry about crime. However, it's important to remember a few common sense preventions. Keep the doors to your home locked. Don't leave your garage door up for periods of time if you're not outside within view. Don't leave your mail in the mailbox overnight. And finally, what about your garage door remote control? Even if you think there's nothing to steal in your car, don't leave your car unlocked outside when there's a garage door remote control in it.

## Permits Needed for Alarms

Anyone who uses a home security alarm system must have a city alarm permit. An up-to-date alarm permit provides emergency personnel with current contact information, and allows you to list at least two people who can respond if they can't reach you. New permits are \$27 and annual renewals are \$17. City fines for not having a permit can exceed \$150. Download a permit application at [www.okc.gov/alarm](http://www.okc.gov/alarm), or call 297.1109.

## Dam Trouble

As you may have noticed in recent years, the neighborhood's pond has not been holding water very well. In recent years, even though a rain would fill it up nicely, shortly thereafter it would get very low again. The dam has not been working properly for many years, but this summer it got much worse, quickly. After our "500-year flood" event in June, the dam was badly degraded and is now in serious need of repair. The board is currently exploring options regarding this matter. Westlake homeowners will be getting news when it is available outlining research regarding the pond's status and possible repairs.

## Neighborhood Scam Alert

Several area neighborhoods have recently reported illegal door-to-door magazine sales solicitations. Westlake had one just last month. Often these young salespeople will tell you that they live nearby or that they are in a contest to sell the most in order to win educational travel or a scholarship. The truth is that they typically live in another state and have traveled to OKC to sell these items. People who buy these subscriptions sometimes never receive any issues of the magazine, and some have even been victims of ID scams when they pay with a check or credit card.

### REMEMBER:

Anyone who knocks on your door trying to sell something is required to be licensed by the City of OKC and the Police Department.

All licensed salespeople will have a solicitor's license, typically on a lanyard around their neck.

Ask to see the City of OKC-issued license before you do any business with them. If they don't have one, tell them you know it is illegal for them to sell door-to-door without one. They will probably then leave this neighborhood.

## Board Members

- Pat Vaughn, *President*
- Kelly Siler, *Vice-President*
- Joan Cave, *Treasurer*
- Lisa Loewenkamp, *Secretary*
- Connie Bradley
- Shawn Dunn
- Janice Graves
- Ron Jones
- Wendell Whisenhunt

We would like to welcome our three newest board members: Shawn Dunn, Kelly Siler, and Wendel Whisenhunt. Thanks to you and to everyone willing to serve!

## Grandparents Needed

If you are 55 or older and want to share your experience and compassion with children, check out the Foster Grandparent Program. You'll work with children one-on-one or in small groups to help with their academic development.

### Highlights:

- Free meals, transportation, smocks or vests, and a yearly physical.
- Work at least 15 hours per week.
- If you're income eligible, earn a \$2.65 per hour stipend. It's non-taxable and does not affect Social Security or other benefits.

For more information, call Susie Daniels, Director, Area 1 Foster Grandparent Program at 800.522.1064.