



November
2015

THE TOWN WATCH

Lakewood Village TX Neighborhood Watch



UPCOMING LWV EVENT



Christmas Caroling in the Village has become a tradition by a few of our residents for years. This is an open invitation to those who would like to participate and enjoy the fun during the holiday season! If you are interested, contact Janie Newsome via Facebook or through email at: lwvwatchprogram@gmail.com



Stay Aware of Holiday Package Thieves

Every year as the holiday season nears, the complaints of packages stolen from front porches and doorsteps tend to permeate ultimately turning yourself into an easy target for thieves that scour front doors for deliveries. One way to protect yourself is have your high-dollar items sent to your place of employment instead of your home, if your employer will allow it. You could also have them shipped to the home of a person who you know will be home when you are not. A note left with a mail carrier alerting them to leave packages at the post office has also been recommended by postal officials.

To report
suspicious activity,
call Denton County
Sheriff's Office
(940) 349-1600

Keep Your Pets Safe During Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time for friends, family and holiday feasts, but also a time for possible distress for our animal companions. Pets won't be so thankful if they munch on undercooked turkey or a pet-unfriendly floral arrangement, or if they stumble upon an unattended alcoholic drink.

Check out the following tips for a fulfilling Thanksgiving that your pets can enjoy, too:

•**Talkin' Turkey:** If you decide to feed your pet a small bite of turkey, make sure it's boneless and well-cooked. Don't offer her raw or undercooked turkey, which may contain salmonella bacteria. Do not give your pet the left over carcass—the bones can be problematic for the digestive tract.

•**No Bread Dough:** Don't spoil your pet's holiday by giving him access to raw yeast bread dough. When a dog or cat ingests raw bread dough, the yeast continues to convert the sugars in the dough to carbon dioxide gas and alcohol. This can result in bloated drunken pets, which could become a life-threatening emergency, requiring hospitalization.

•**Don't Let Them Eat Cake:** If you plan to bake Thanksgiving desserts, be sure your pets keep their noses out of the batter, especially if it includes raw eggs—they could contain salmonella bacteria that may lead to food poisoning.

•**A Feast Fit for a King:** While your family enjoys a special meal, give your cat and dog a small feast of their own. Offer them made-for-pets chew bones. Or stuff their usual dinner, perhaps with a few added tidbits of turkey, vegetables (try sweet potato or green beans) and dribbles of gravy, inside a food puzzle toy. They'll be happily occupied for awhile, working hard to extract their dinner from the toy.

A few small boneless pieces of cooked turkey, a taste of mashed potato or even a lick of pumpkin pie shouldn't pose a problem. However, don't allow your pets to overindulge, as they could wind up with a case of stomach upset, diarrhea or even worse, an inflammatory condition of the pancreas known as pancreatitis. In fact, it's best keep pets on their regular diets during the holidays.

TABLE SCRAPS
ARE
NOT TREATS!



Thanksgiving Holiday Safety Tips

To ensure a worry-free holiday, these tips offer simple, convenient travel and Thanksgiving safety tips to keep your family and home safe for the holidays:

- Remove fall-related objects that might allow access to your home. For example, ladders for cleaning leaves out of gutters can be used to enter a window or scale a fence
- Don't post Thanksgiving travel plans on Facebook, Twitter or social media in general letting people know that you will be out of town
- Turn your telephone ringer down so no one outside can hear repeated rings; and review your answering machine message to make sure it does not imply that you are away
- Make sure to have all mail, newspapers, and deliveries stopped or picked up by a neighbor, friend or relative
- Never leave a key hidden outside. Burglars know all the best hiding places
- Secure all windows, including those upstairs and reduce the chance of easy entry by cutting tree limbs away from second-story windows
- Have a friend move your car occasionally if it is parked in the driveway
- Use timers to operate lights
- Have a home security system installed that includes a 24-hour fire monitoring service that automatically dispatches the fire or sheriff department. Also the newer web-based home security systems allow you to check on your home while away and even arm & disarm your system from any laptop, cell phone, PDA or other web-enabled devices.

Also, according to the National Fire Protection Association, Thanksgiving is the leading day for home-cooking fires. Review these fire-safety tips to ensure everyone has a safe and healthy Turkey Day:

- Be sure to keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of emergency, and teach your family how to use it
- Be cautious when using turkey fryers as they pose a number of distinct safety concerns, including burn and fire hazards
- Never wear loose fitting clothing when cooking. Long, open sleeves could ignite and catch fire from a gas flame or a hot burner. Wear short, close fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.

Use these Thanksgiving safety tips this holiday season, and be thankful for your home & family's safety.