

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter Martin Luther King Edition

A TRIBUTE TO A GREAT AMERICAN: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

The importance of the legacy of the late Dr. Martin Luther King cannot be overstated.

King was born in Atlanta, GA., January 15, 1929 to father, Martin Luther King Sr., a pastor, and Alberta Williams King, a schoolteacher.

As a student of segregated, public school, King excelled. A 15 he was admitted to Morehouse College where he studied medicine and law.

Morehouse was the alma mater of both his father and maternal grandfather, but until influenced by Dr. Benjamin Mays, Morehouse's president, theologian and advocate of racial equality, he never intended to follow in his father's footsteps. After graduating Morehouse in 1948, King earned his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Crozer Theological Seminary, and in 1953, a doctorate in Systematic Theology from Boston University.

It was there in Boston that he met and married a young singer from Alabama who was studying at the New England Conservatory of Music, Coretta Scott.

The young couple moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where King became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

The highly segregated city of Montgomery soon became the epicenter of the burgeoning struggle for civil rights, galvanized by the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka decision of 1954.

On December 1, 1955, after local chapter NAACP president, Rosa Parks, was arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, King was chosen as the spokesman on behalf of activists' 381 day bus boycott. This placed a severe economic strain on the public transit system and downtown business owners leading to the SCOTUS' November '56 ruling against segregated seating on public buses.

By now, King had entered the national spotlight as an inspirational proponent of organized, nonviolent resistance but not without sacrifice; he had been targeted by white supremacists that firebombed his family home.

Emboldened and encouraged by his successes, however, in 1957 he and other civil rights activists founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Its motto, "Not one hair of one head of one person should be harmed, was a

group committed to achieving full equality for African Americans through nonviolence.

King gave lectures on nonviolent protest and civil rights across the country and around the world.

Then, in 1960 King joined his father as copastor Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, but



persisted with his SCLC colleagues organizing and instigating many of the most significant civil rights battles of the 1960s.

Arrested for his involvement on April 12, 1960 Birmingham protest, King penned the civil rights manifesto known as the "Letter from Birmingham Jail," an eloquent defense of civil disobedience addressed to a group of white clergymen who had criticized his tactics.

King, civil rights and religious groups organized the August 28 "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom" to expose the injustices African Americans, was attended by more than 200,000 participants and was the impetus for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The final section of Martin Luther King Jr.'s eloquent and iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, is believed to have been largely improvised, was then King's most famous address, and a spirited call for peace and equality that many considered a masterpiece of rhetoric.

The speech and march earned him world-wide recognition, was named Man of the Year by TIME youngest Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

In the spring of 1965, King's elevated profile drew international attention to the violence that erupted between white segregationists and peaceful demonstrators in Selma, Alabama, where the SCLC and Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) had organized a voter registration campaign. The televised brutality outraged many and inspired supporters from across the country to gather in Selma and take part in a march to Montgomery led by King.

The responsibility fell to President Lyndon Johnson to send federal troops to secure the safety of the marchers. The Voting Rights Act, guarantying to all African Americans the right to vote, was signed into law that August.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was shot and killed on the evening of April 4, 1968 by James Earl Ray, an escaped convict and known racist.

In 1983 President Ronald Reagan signed a bill creating a U.S. federal holiday in honor of King. (Source: history.com/topics/black-history/martin-luther-king-jr)

"HITMAN" TEXT PUT IPHONE USERS ON EDGE

Receiving an unexpected message from an unknown number can make you a little wary. Normally it's just someone you haven't spoken to in a while. But unfortunately, it's also another opportunity for scammers to take advantage of you.

A lot of people simply don't reply to strange texts. But if you thought your life was at stake, would you still ignore it?

People in Maryland and Pennsylvania have been receiving threats from a supposed hitman. The messages are coming from "isigman@conejousd.org".

I've been paid to kill you but wish to spare you. Inform the police or anyone else you die. To be spared, contact vsdky@hotmail.com immediately via email

It can be very scary at first if you don't know this is happening to other people. Luckily, those affected notified law enforcement officials in their respective areas.

The police believe the messages came from a scammer, not a hitman. They warned that the message could contain a virus that infects your phone and then sends the message to all of your contacts.

The publication of this newsletter is unofficial and does not express 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 improve this effort are welcome.

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They also warned that replying to the email could enable the scammer to download everything from your phone.

They said the best thing to do was to immediately delete the message. If you receive one of these text messages, don't hesitate to report it to the police. Even thought your life may not be at risk, your privacy could be. (Source: http://www.komando.com/happening-now/384991/watch-out-for-this-hitman-text-message-scam?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=notd&utm_content=20 17-01-02-article-c)

BELL COUNTY MOST WANTED AS OF: JANUARY 15, 2017



Efrem Edwards, Wanted For: Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity, this issue's featured fugitive, is a 22 y/o, B/M with Brown Eyes and Black Hair. Edwards stands 5'7", weighs 150 lbs whose last know address was in Nolanville.

FROM AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has increased the reward for information leading to the arrest of: Monroe Hernandez, 49, of up to \$8,000.

Hernandez, featured in our October 15th issue is Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault and Indecency with a Child.

Hernandez's last known address was in Waco,



and he has ties to the area. He is 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighs approximately 180 pounds and has tattoos on his chest, left hand and both legs.

Hernandez may be using an alias.

In 1993, Hernandez was convicted of sexually assaulting a woman in McLennan County. His criminal history also includes possession of cocaine, failure to comply with sex offender registration requirements and multiple DWIs. He subsequently was sentenced to 6 years in TDCJ prison.

In 2001, Hernandez was convicted of Driving While Intoxicated and received a 17-year sentence in TDCJ prison. He was paroled in March 2014.

On September 10, 2014, a Parole Violation warrant for Hernandez's arrest was issued. On April 11, 2016, the Waco Police Department issued an additional warrant for Failure to Comply with Sex Offender Registration Requirements.

For more information or updates in the event of his arrest, see his wanted bulletin at:

www.dps.texas.gov/Texas10MostWanted/Sex
OffenderDetails.aspx?id=338. All tips are guaranteed to be anonymous.

Members of the U.S. Marshals Service North Texas Fugitive Task Force, including the Texas DPS Criminal Investigations Division (CID), took Albert Isaiah Christopher, a convicted sex offender, into custody on October 31, 2016, at a location in Dallas.

Christopher

was convicted of two counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child after incidents in Dallas County involving two girls, ages 10 and 12. He subsequently was sentenced to seven years' probation and required to register as a sex offender every three months.

He has been wanted since January 2014. The arrest was the result of tip information received through Texas Crime Stoppers and a reward will be paid.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM STATUS UPDATE

CERT (Community Emergency Response

Team) Training Program is had the final touches applied to the Phase One "Crawl" instructional files. Several select residents have volunteered to exercise the program, provide feedback and assist with improving the program.

It's been a long, research-intensive effort to compile the fundamental information, videos and vignettes that can be presented and implemented by head-of-household in a "kitchen table" setting.

The objective is that every household, regardless of their intent to proceed to the next level, Phase Two, "Walk", for adults and ageappropriate, willing teens to be able to know how to react when and if disaster strikes.

There is no date-certain for accomplishing our final goal to assemble fully qualified CERT.

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