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**NEWS FOR THE CITIZENS OF WARR ACRES**

**January, 2007**

**Voting place changes for Precinct 315**

Great news for residents living in Twin Lakes and MacArthur Terrace. The Cherokee Hills Baptist Church, 5700 N.W. 63<sup>rd</sup>, has volunteered to become the polling place for precinct 315. Previously the voting place was First Church of the Nazarene, 4400 Northwest Expressway. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to Pastor Ivy and the congregation of CHBC!

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2007**

Please mark your calendars with these important dates. Notice of City Holidays for 2007 and sanitation pickup for holiday weeks: The Sanitation Department **will not pick up garbage on any holiday**, however, **ON THE WEDNESDAY OF THAT HOLIDAY WEEK** there will be **CURBSIDE PICKUP FOR THE ENTIRE CITY**.

<u>HOLIDAY</u>		<u>CLOSED</u>
New Year's Day	January 1	Monday, January 1, 2007
President's Day	February 19	Monday, February 19, 2007
Good Friday	April 6	Friday, April 6, 2007
Memorial Day	May 28	Monday, May 28, 2007
Independence Day	July 4	Wednesday, July 4, 2007
<b>The Independence Day holiday will not affect your normal pick-up days since it falls on Wednesday.</b>		
Labor Day	September 3	Monday, September 3, 2007
Veteran's Day	November 11	Monday, November 12, 2007
Thanksgiving	November 22	Thursday, November 22, 2007
Thanksgiving	November 23	Friday, November 23, 2007
Christmas Eve	December 24	Monday, December 24, 2007
Christmas Day	December 25	Tuesday, December 25, 2007

When a holiday occurs on a Saturday, it is observed on the preceding Friday. When the holiday occurs on a Sunday, it is observed on the following Monday. You can also find all City closings on Warr Acres Cable TV access channel 20; the City Web site [www.warracres-ok.gov](http://www.warracres-ok.gov) and on the utility bills, as well as in the City's Newsletter, and posted in the Daily Oklahoman in their Metro section under City Closings the week before the closing. **Reminder: Any trash exceeding the allowed four 40 gallon cans + 8 trash bags will be charged \$2.50 per bag.**

**Helpful Phone Numbers**

City Hall	789-2892
Fax	787-5432
Police Department	789-3329
Fire Department	789-5912
Animal Control	789-9025
Municipal Court	495-3032
Inspections & Permits	789-2892
Sanitation Department	491-6474
Streets & Parks	787-1404
Sewer Department	491-6478
Community Center	789-9892
Putnam City Schools	495-5200

**City Council Members**

**Mayor**

Marietta Tardibono

**Ward 1**

Stan Street  
Jeff Martinez

**Ward 3**

Jimmy Alexander  
Walter Johnson

**Ward 2**

Nancy Olson  
Stewart Shapiro

**Ward 4**

Michael Gossman  
Rodney Nelson

**Storm Shelters**

Storm shelters are available at the following locations for citizens who are away from home when severe weather threatens the City of Warr Acres.

**Cherokee Hills Park**  
NW 67<sup>th</sup> & Cherokee

**Grandma's Park**  
NW 40<sup>th</sup> West of MacArthur

**City Hall**  
5930 NW 49<sup>th</sup>

## **NW Optimist Soccer Sign-Up**

Soccer programs for kids age 4 and up. Sign up at Dolese Park across from Putnam City High School, February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; February 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; and February 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Ten week season starts on March 3<sup>rd</sup> with games on Saturdays. Bring copy of birth record and original for confirmation. Fees: \$50.00 for under 6; \$55.00 for under 8; and \$65.00 for under 10 and up (multiple child discount) (\$5 late fee after February 17th). For more information visit [www.nwosoccer.com](http://www.nwosoccer.com) or call 495-5860.

## **Pet licenses renewal due January, 2007**

Warr Acres Municipal ordinances require all dogs and cats kept within the City to be licensed. These licenses expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> each year, and are required to be on the pet with their annual rabies vaccination tag. New licenses cost \$5.00 while renewals with previous year license are \$2.50. Licenses are available for new issues and renewals at the Warr Acres Police Department, Cherokee Hills Veterinary Hospital (just south of NW Expressway on MacArthur) and Woodlake Animal Hospital (on NW 63<sup>rd</sup> between Rockwell and MacArthur).



## **One home can become neighborhood problem** (*The Oklahoman, Nov.23, 2006*).

Recently, we attended a meeting of our county board of supervisors, the group that addresses such complex issues as transportation and development, and such seemingly minor ones as what to do about homes that are blighted or pose health or safety hazards.

On the day we were there, the board heard about three single-family homes facing abatement—the fancy word for being boarded up and ultimately torn down. The properties' owners, neighbors and county building officials were present in hopes of finding a resolution.

The owners suggested their properties were not nearly as bad as the neighbors would have the supervisors believe. The neighbors, armed with photos of the homes in question, said conditions were far worse than the photos showed. The officials' interpreted building code, deciphered what they had discovered during visits to the properties, and answered questions posed by all parties.

It was a clear reminder to us of how what we do—or don't do—to our homes can have far-reaching effects on neighboring homes and a community at large. We're not just referring to comfort and value; we're talking about health, safety and, as one neighbor put it, "quiet enjoyment."

For example, one of the homes scheduled for abatement suffered from maladies including a leaking roof, missing sections of siding, exposed electrical wiring and a leaning, un-reinforced brick chimney.

A leaking roof can be devastating to the structural integrity of a home. Wood and water don't mix. Rot can become so pervasive that it makes the home especially vulnerable in an earthquake.

Keep in mind that it's not the seismic activity that typically destroys homes and neighborhoods; it's the fires from toppling water heaters and broken gas lines. Even the best anchors and fasteners don't have a chance in rotten wood.

Another potentially catastrophic condition that results from wet, rotting wood is termite infestation. And once termites make a meal out of one home, they can do so with other homes in the neighborhood as they forage for food. Missing siding and exposed wiring pose more potential for water damage and an electrical fire. The leaning chimney, of all the deficiencies, probably poses the greatest danger to the homeowner and the neighboring home. Depending on how badly it leans, it can be toppled by a strong wind, injuring or killing someone. Having a home with peeling paint or a poorly kept yard is one thing; having a home that could inflict harm is quite another!

Why would someone allow a home to fall into such disrepair? It must be a lack of funds or lack of knowledge. People do fall on hard times, and the last thing on their minds is fixing a roof or repairing siding. Some homeowners lack knowledge about the effect the deterioration could have on neighbors. The concerns about the appearance and safety of their homes and neighborhood are legitimate and compelling. Some good things can come out of learning that there is a direct connection between the condition of properties and those of their neighbors, and that it goes beyond appearance. Help is available through no-interest loans and grants that can be used to restore a home's integrity. There are national, regional and local volunteer organizations such as Rebuilding Together ([www.rebuildingtogether.org](http://www.rebuildingtogether.org)) that help secure warm, safe, and dry homes. Just as one person's problem becomes a problem for others, solving the problem for one can act as a solution for all.