

October/November 2004

The Worth Ross Tenant Newsletter Service



**Happy  
Thanksgiving  
November 25, 2004**

**Your Worth Ross  
& Associates Team!**

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## Safety First

The holiday season is here – Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and then a new year begins before holiday activity slows down. Stores, malls, and downtown streets are teeming with shoppers. During the holidays it is easy to be busy, stressed, and careless when it comes to safety. Criminals are out there to prey on these very factors – both in the public areas and residential streets.

Take time to think about how to prevent thefts and break-ins. Protect yourself and your family. Just a little planning and awareness can make a big difference.

### Take an inventory

- Take an inventory of your belongings, complete with photos, descriptions, and serial numbers.
- Items to list are TVs, VCRs, computers, stereos, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, or anything of value.
- Review your list a second time for accuracy.
- Check your renters' insurance, and if you do not have any, purchase a policy.

### When you leave the house

- Turn on a light and a radio or TV so that it appears that someone is home.
- Take extra precaution when

locking windows and doors, even if you are only leaving for a few minutes.

- Have any faulty locks or doors fixed.
- Pick up newspapers and advertising left at your front door. You do not want it to appear that you have not been home for some time.
- Do not display gifts so they are seen from the outside.

### When you are shopping

- Park in spaces where there is plenty of light
- Close all car windows and be sure the car is locked.
- Stay alert to what is around you, whether in the parking lot or shopping area.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash; use checks, debit cards or credit cards instead.
- Carry a purse close to your body and in front of you.
- Put a wallet inside a coat or in a front pants pocket, not the back
- Teach your children how to find a clerk or security guard if you separate
- Counsel children on what not to do when strangers approach

### When you are home

- If a stranger comes to the door check through a window or peephole before answering.

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## ***Report Your Maintenance On The Internet!***

### ***Did You Know?***

Did you know that you could report your maintenance on our updated Web Site? It's easy, just go to [www.worthross.com](http://www.worthross.com) and choose Resident Information, and then, Maintenance Form. Just fill in each item, tabbing from one to another, and send. We will send a confirmation e-mail to you.

### ***Know someone who is looking for a home?***

Know a homeowner who would like to rent out their home? Refer them to us and we will reward you. We just need a name and telephone number of the person you are referring, or simply have them mention your name when they call us. Call, fax, or send us an e-mail to earn your reward today.



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- Beware of couriers, delivery or sales persons.
- If in doubt, ask for identification
- If you fear the person means harm, lock the door and call the police

#### **If you are traveling**

- Get an automatic timer so your lights come when it is dark
- Have a neighbor watch your home
- Have mail and deliveries stopped.
- Have someone pick up anything on your doorstep.

**Take safety precautions and enjoy the holidays.**

#### **Holiday Lights**

- Hang lights and decorations properly and carefully.
- Before hanging, check for bad plugs and loose or exposed wires. If you find defects, dispose of the lights.
- Only use lights and decorations during holiday seasons; remove them immediately when the season ends.
- If you use extension cords, do not overload, do not stable them to the residence, and if outside, use only cords approved for outside use.
- Never leave holiday lights on when leaving your residence to avoid fire danger.