Alert™
Protective Services, LLC

SECURITY NEWSLINE

Your Guide to Greater Security Awareness
in the Greater Chicagoland area

SPRING ISSUE 2020

IN THIS ISSUE, WE'RE COVERING

- ALERT STAYS OPEN
- NEW HOME AUTOMATION TECH
- SECURITY FOR HOUSES OF WORSHIP
- ALERT VOLUNTEERS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS
- PET PROFILE
- STORM PREPARATION
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WE'RE HERE FOR YOU THROUGHOUT COVID-19

These are difficult times for Chicagoland, and there's a lot to worry about, but your security system is not one of them. We're still monitoring and servicing 24/7.

WE REMAIN OPEN AND AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMERS DURING THIS TIME

USING NEW HOME AUTOMATION TECHNOLOGIES TO KEEP REMOTE HOMES AND BUSINESSES SAFE.

Unfortunately, during this stay at home order, burglaries across the country have surged as homes and businesses are left unattended.

- **Control your home or business remotely.** Make it seem like you're still there by turning the lights on and off from anywhere.
- **Monitor the perimeter to keep an eye on any threats.** Get an immediate alert if an outside sensor is tripped and view the outside cameras on your phone.
- **Keep an eye on loved ones you can't visit regularly.** Internal sensors and cameras will allow you to make sure elderly or disabled family members are still ok. Even if you're not allowed to go there in person, you can still make sure they're safe and sound.

ALERT PROTECTIVE VOLUNTEERS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Being designated as an 'essential business' by the State of Illinois, the Alert Protective Services team has been working every day monitoring and servicing our customers' security systems.

And since we have service trucks on the road at a time when most Chicagoans are stuck inside, we thought we would put them to extra work helping some of our neediest neighbors, and so we began making deliveries for Meals on Wheels.

"It felt great to chip in and help our city!" said Warren Benner, one of Alert's Techs -- and now delivery man -- who worked with the Meals on Wheels team at their River North location.

Meals on Wheels Chicago began its mission to feed the hungry 32 years ago - at almost exactly the same time that Alert was founded. Alert encourages all of its partners to chip in and help a charity in this difficult time; pulling together, we can get through this crisis faster and safer.

MEALS ON WHEELS CHICAGO

SECURITY FOR CHICAGOLAND HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Did you know there has been a HUGE increase in violence and vandalism against religious buildings recently? Sadly, religious leaders across all denominations have had to address a very real concern for the safety and security of their congregation.

We recently completed the design and installation of a comprehensive security system for the largest synagogue in Chicagoland, and it highlighted some of the special requirements of religious buildings. Houses of worship are not like other places; they are packed at some points, and totally empty at others.

These occupancy highs and lows require special design features, such as farther initial monitoring points to provide early warnings to protect the faithful when they're at their most vulnerable, and different positioning of fire sensors to detect vandalism.

Call us for a free site walk-through to discuss the specific configuration needed to keep your house of worship safe. We'll happily share the expertise we've learned.

THE BENEFITS OF THE 3G UPGRADE

As most of our customers now know, the 3G networks used by all wireless carriers will be replaced with new 4G LTE networks by the end of next year. In addition to upgrading all of our customers' homes and businesses to be compatible with the advanced networks, we have also invested in upgrading our own monitoring and response systems to meet these new challenges.

As we have been doing upgrades, many customers have asked what, if any, benefits will come from the new networks? In short, the answer is many. In addition to significantly higher data transfer speeds (as much as 10X faster in some cases), the new networks will better support interactive features, such as Smart Home Automation and Enhanced Video Surveillance.

The new networks and upgraded systems we are rolling out will provide you with faster, greater control over your home and business security. The upgrade process is quick and easy, and the benefits and future enhancements will make an improvement in your safety.

If you have any questions about these improvements, please don't hesitate to call us anytime - we have one of Chicago's leading experts on the new technologies happy to talk you through these changes.

PET PROFILE

MEET HOWARD + HIS DOGS PUDDY, PHIL, + AUGGY

We have our hands full with these three boys at home! Phil came first to "fill" a hole in my wife's heart from the loss of our previous dog. Next, came Puddy (Phil's buddy--get it?). Then my daughter needed a new companion after the passing of her pet, so we got Auggy. Our hearts and homes have never been filled with so much love, laughter, and barking!

OUR MISSION, OUR PROMISE.

"We strive to deliver innovative, user-friendly security systems to every customer because we strongly believe crime is best fought by deterring it"

STORMS ON THE HORIZON

As if life isn't chaotic enough, the Midwest is in full-swing on storm territory. With the changing seasons and shifts in both warm and cold fronts, storms are likely in our future.

Being prepared for these storms is crucial! We want to help you minimize the inconvenience that comes with storms and maximize your family's safety.

TIP: BE PREPARED FOR A POWER OUTAGE

Make sure supplies are handy should a power outage occur in your home. Store a kit in a place that is easily accessible and include items such as a battery powered radio, a flashlight, and fresh batteries.

In addition to having supplies ready, make sure to turn off all major appliances if a power outage happens. This ensures that when the power does come back on, you aren't ruining your appliances or blowing fuses in your home.

TIP: BE PREPARED FOR ANY DISASTER

Also, in the case of any emergency, whether it be a storm, tornado, or even a house fire, you should have an emergency bag packed for your family with bottled water, seasonal clothing, and non-perishable food.

Right now, weather may be a major player in the chaos games. Along with home security and health safety, you need to be prepared at a moment's notice for weather shifts.

Take time to plan ahead with your family and get yourselves on an emergency plan. It's better to be safe than sorry!

AN ALERT SECURITY TIP

People are spending more time indoors with the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, which means many of us are spending more time on devices and more time on social media.

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS!

There are still people out there looking for homes to break into and personal possessions to steal. When you are posting videos or even photos to social media, be mindful of the items you have in the background. The less you showcase on social platforms, the less of a target you become for someone looking to break into homes.

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