

# The Corner Post

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A quarterly publication of  
The Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.  
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*Working to create  
safe, attractive and healthy  
neighborhoods throughout  
Central Oklahoma<sup>SM</sup>*

[www.nacok.org](http://www.nacok.org)

## Congratulations Graduates!

When you read this article 26 people will have graduated from the 2006 Neighborhood Leaders for Today program. Neighborhood Leaders for Today (NLT) is an annual 7-week course for up and coming neighborhood leaders. Neighborhood Alliance has produced this class for 14 years and it is successful only because of the cooperation and graciousness of civic leaders and experts that help teach this wonderful class.

During the course students learn the basics of how to motivate, beautify and improve their neighborhoods. But more than that, they get the opportunity to interact face to face with many civic leaders.

NEIGHBORHOOD  
Leaders  
For Today!



This year's class met the Fire Chief and Police Chief, the OKCPD

Community Police Relations Officers, representatives of eight different successful neighborhood associations, Councilman Sam Bowman and Councilman Larry McAtee, representatives from the City of OKC Code Enforcement, Animal Welfare, Zoning, Planning, Parks and Recreation, Neighborhood Services, Housing Rehabilitation and Traffic divisions.



Other instructors included members of the Sooner Parliamentarian Club, Brian Dougherty of Oklahoma City Community Foundation, and everyone's favorite, the staff of Possibilities, Inc.

We were very proud to have had representatives from Norman, Chickasha, The Village and Midwest City, as well as Oklahoma City, in this year's class. These 26 people are truly making a difference for all of us. We are all interconnected and when one neighborhood becomes stronger, safer or more attractive it affects the neighborhoods on each side. **On behalf of all the residents of Central Oklahoma, we applaud the graduates of the 2006 Neighborhood Leaders for Today.** We look forward to tracking your successes!

*Please see the list of 2006 Neighborhood Leaders for Today graduates on page 2*

# Georgie's Corner

Earlier today Dorothy Harding, the President of Ross Heights Neighborhood Association stopped by the office and brought me a bouquet of flowers. It is not my birthday, not even close, she just wanted to do something nice for someone and I was it!

I don't think she will ever know just how much that gesture meant to me. It had been a day of frustrations. I just found out we will be getting a 10% cut in one of our funding sources, I was trying to help a neighborhood get a permit for a sign they wanted to build over a year ago, a woman called very upset about speeders in her neighborhood, I needed to get this article written for the newsletter, another neighborhood is having difficulty getting their lighting project underway and we were trying to put the finishing touches on a new brochure.

Then in walks Ms. Harding and I stopped and realized why we do what we do. We do it because this City is filled with great people; and for the most part, they want to contribute to a sense of community by working toward making our City an even better place to live. They want to be good neighbors.

Today Ms. Harding showed me what a good neighbor does. She showed me that in the end all the frustrations are just a small part of our day. The bigger picture is that we are all out there working to live together the best way we can.

All of you are doing the same thing in your own neighborhoods. Your newsletter, wave or friendly chat over the back fence just might make someone's day much brighter.

I'm ready to come back on Monday and tackle that permit issue!! Uh-oh! I might need more than flowers!!!

Georgie Rasco  
Executive Director  
Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

## Class of 2006 Neighborhood Leaders for Today



<b>Esther M. Broughton</b>	South Park Estates NA
<b>Carl Carter</b>	Ravenswood NA
<b>Benjamin Davis</b>	Medical Community NA
<b>Don Davis</b>	Lincoln Terrace NA
<b>Jasia Dowd</b>	Oakcliff NA
<b>Charlotte Forh</b>	Garden Oaks NA
<b>Dorothy Gilliland</b>	Ravenswood NA
<b>Terry Gilliland</b>	Ravenswood NA
<b>Michael Guard</b>	Lincoln Terrace NA
<b>Bob Hare</b>	West Watch NA
<b>Steve Klapp</b>	Rambling Acres MBO
<b>Kent Larason</b>	Lakehurst HOA
<b>Bruce Leach</b>	Tecumseh Ridge Addition, Norman
<b>Jon Lindblom</b>	Wileman's Third NA
<b>Earnestine McClellon</b>	Garden NA
<b>Goldia-Marie Reed</b>	North-side NWA, Chickasha
<b>Leola Rhodes</b>	South Park Estates NA
<b>Leonard Roberts</b>	West Watch NA
<b>Rachel Roberts</b>	Skyline NWA
<b>Velma Rogers</b>	Skyline NWA
<b>Eunice Russell</b>	Edwards Community Club
<b>Clyde Sabala</b>	Apple Valley HOA
<b>Judy Savage</b>	Wileman's Eighth NA
<b>Janice Seard</b>	Midwest City
<b>Jennifer Stepp</b>	The Village
<b>Kristina Van Buren</b>	Suggs Park NA

Visitors to our little firehouse will surely notice the beautiful bulbs blooming in our flowerbeds.



We would like to say thank you to **Klee Black Landscaping** who generously donated these flowers to Neighborhood Alliance and even planted them for us!

# Emergency Preparedness & Response

While an emergency situation can occur at any time, spring in Oklahoma brings with it a heightened awareness of emergency preparation. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina it became abundantly clear that we need to be prepared to take care of ourselves and our neighbors and possibly even assist our government officials in responding to emergency situations.

## **The basics of being prepared include:**

- Evaluating your home and neighborhood for potential risks.
- Preparing for those risks by creating a response plan.

- Preparing a communications plan for your family and your neighborhood.
- Putting together an emergency supplies kit that will enable you and your family to be self-sustaining for 72 hours.
- Staying informed during an emergency by insuring that you have a battery operated radio or television and a supply of batteries to operate them.

Local, State and Federal government officials all agree that citizen participation in emergency planning and response is critical to the success of response efforts. It is up to us to be informed and prepared to take care of ourselves and those around us.

## Emergency Preparedness Resources and Speakers



The following people are willing to speak to you and your neighborhood. They can provide a wealth of information that can assist you in creating emergency preparedness and response plans.

### **Ronnie Warren, Director Oklahoma City Emergency Management**

405-297-1117

[ronnie.warren@okc.gov](mailto:ronnie.warren@okc.gov)

Contact Ronnie if you are interested in Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training.

### **David Barnes, Director Oklahoma County Emergency Management**

405-713-1360

[dbarnes@oklahomacounty.org](mailto:dbarnes@oklahomacounty.org)

### **Elizabeth Hopkins American Red Cross**

405-228-9500

[ehopkins@arcok.org](mailto:ehopkins@arcok.org)

### **Mike Love, Sr. Oklahoma City Department of Public Works Emergency Response Team**

405-682-7034

[mike.love@okc.gov](mailto:mike.love@okc.gov)

### **Nancy Dayton, RN Senior Services Oklahoma City-County Health Department**

405-425-4352

[Nancy\\_Dayton@occhd.org](mailto:Nancy_Dayton@occhd.org)

### **Oklahoma City Fire Department Public Education**

405-297-3318

Your local fire station can provide free smoke alarms to those who can not purchase them; they can even install them if a person is not able to do so themselves. Contact your local fire station today.

## Resources on the Web:

### **American Red Cross**

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

### **The City of Oklahoma City**

[www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov). The City of Oklahoma City Hazard Mitigation can be found by clicking "City Departments" then "Public Works" then "Hazardous Mitigation." This site includes valuable information about OKC's preparedness plan as well as numerous links to FEMA and other emergency planning resources.

Your participation and feedback is requested in OKC's hazard mitigation efforts, logon to **[www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov)** today and learn more about what you can do to help.

### **Oklahoma City Police Department**

[www.ocpd.gov](http://www.ocpd.gov)

Click on "Safety Bulletins" to access information on a variety of emergency situations both natural and man-made.

### **Oklahoma City-County Health Department**

[www.occhd.org](http://www.occhd.org)

### **Oklahoma County Emergency Management**

[www.oklahomacounty.org/  
EmergencyManagement](http://www.oklahomacounty.org/EmergencyManagement)

### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

[www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov)

### **US Department of Homeland Security**

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

## Grant Deadlines:

### City of OKC, Neighborhood Partnership Grants

**Deadline:  
September 12th**

Low-Moderate income neighborhoods are eligible to apply for up to \$10,000 to implement a neighborhood safety or beautification project. If you are interested in applying for this grant call Georgie today: 528-6322.

### Oklahoma City Community Foundation – Margaret Annis Boys Trust Grants

**Upcoming Deadlines:  
July 3rd and  
October 2nd.**

This program is open to non-profit organizations, neighborhood associations and other groups who wish to implement beautification projects in parks, medians and other public lands in the Oklahoma City area. Contact Brian Dougherty at OCCF for more information: 235-5603.

# It Takes A Neighborhood To Mow The Grass

In the spring a neighborhood's fancy turns to thoughts of ...lawn mowing? Okay, so most neighborhoods don't exactly wax poetic about all the hard work it takes to maintain their entrances and easements, but most of us would agree that we all benefit from the hard work and dedication of our neighbors who insure that neighborhood entrances are mowed and cared for.



*Lakeaire NA* (NW 90/NW 86/Lakeaire Dr/MacArthur) has maintained their entrance and right-of-way along MacArthur Blvd with volunteers for 28 years. In the past the neighborhood association provided the mowing equipment and 2 or 3 volunteers took on the job until they "wore out" according to neighborhood president Manuel Jackson. Last summer they decided to do things a little differently and devised an inventive mowing plan that involved more than 40 neighbors!

The MacArthur right-of-way mowing plan set up a bi-weekly mowing schedule that rotated the responsibility for mowing between the six neighborhood streets. A schedule was published in the Lakeaire News to let the residents know when their street was responsible for mowing.

Prior to mowing day, the neighborhood officers would place signs at the entrance reminding neighbors which street was scheduled to mow. On mowing day, neighborhood officers would arrive with the mowing equipment all gassed up and ready to go. The officers would also provide training to volunteers who were unfamiliar with the operation of the equipment.

Manuel declared the mowing plan "highly successful. It enabled neighbors to get to know each other, take pride in their neighborhood and the area looked better than ever." He is looking forward to a second season of the neighbors coming together to live up to the neighborhood motto:

*"Lakeaire – A neat place to live!"*



If you are receiving this newsletter and wish to be removed from our mailing list please call 528-6322 or via email: [Deborah@nacok.org](mailto:Deborah@nacok.org)

**[www.nacok.org](http://www.nacok.org) is here!  
Come visit anytime you're online.**

# Patrollers' Training



This training is for neighborhoods with **existing crime patrol programs**. If you would like to start a Crime Patrol Program in your neighborhood call Neighborhood Alliance at 528-6322 and we will get you started.

## **April 25th 7:00 PM**

Instructor: MSgt Charles Epperly  
Location: Hefner Division Station  
3924 NW 122nd  
Call 316-4416 for more information.

## **June 27th 7:00 PM**

Instructor: MSgt Charles Epperly  
Location: Hefner Division Station  
3924 NW 122nd  
Call 316-4416 for more information.

# Near Northwest Association is Formed

Almost two years ago *Putnam Heights Preservation* (NW 36th and McKinley) hosted several strategic planning meetings for their neighborhood. Through this process, they realized that they lived in a wonderful area of town but needed better contact with the other neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions in and around their boundaries. This idea led to the creation of the newly formed Near Northwest Association.

The group's purpose is to "create a network of informed citizens, who, by virtue of their proximity to one another have mutual interest in issues such as beautification, streets and traffic, property maintenance, code enforcement, historic preservation, safety and crime." Comprised of 13 different neighborhood associations, 5 schools, 3 business districts and 5 supporting agencies, they seek to preserve the integrity of the area that lies between NW 23rd St, I-44, Pennsylvania Ave. and I-235.

Oklahoma City University, Western Avenue Business Association, *Douglas Edgemere Neighbors*, *Crown Heights NA* and *Putnam Heights West NA* are among those who have joined Putnam Heights Preservation in the formation of this vital group.

Councilman Sam Bowman has attended the quarterly meetings and said he "applauds the efforts being done by this group to help preserve and protect this section of Oklahoma City. This group can be a catalyst for positive change."

What a great way to show your commitment for Oklahoma City! If you want more information on how you can organize a coalition of nearby neighborhoods and other institutions, contact Neighborhood Alliance at 528-6322.

*We would like to congratulate Mayor Mick Cornett*



*on winning the recent mayoral election... and thank him for showing his support of neighborhoods by agreeing to be our Keynote Speaker at the April 4th Neighborhood Leaders for Today Graduation Ceremony.*

## Need a speaker for your next neighborhood meeting?

Call Ben Davis, Volunteer Coordinator, The City of OKC Solid Waste Management Division. Ben would love to meet with you and talk about the City of OKC's Curbside Recycling, Saturday Morning Sweep, or Trash Code Enforcement (trash rules and setting out bulky waste).

**Call Ben today** at 749-3092 or contact him via email at Benjamin.davis@okc.gov.

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If you see litter being thrown from vehicles or blowing from truck beds report the license tag number to the Litter Hot Line: 1-888-5-Litter (554-8837).

Report illegal dumping by calling your local sheriff's department.

**Canadian County:**  
262-3434

**Cleveland County:**  
321-8600

**Logan County:**  
282-4100

**Oklahoma County:**  
713-1044 or 236-1717

# Neighborhood Spring Cleaning



Spring is in the air and with it the desire to clean and freshen our homes, neighborhoods and parks. The following are just a few programs that can help do just that.

## Litterblitz April 1 – 30th

Litterblitz is underway and there is still time for your neighborhood to plan a clean-up day. This annual event, sponsored by the City of OKC and OKC Beautiful, is in its sixth year. With 46 groups signed up, representing over 1,700 volunteers, it promises to be a big success again this year. You pick the day and the location that you want to clean up then bring the volunteers. OKC Beautiful will provide trash bags, gloves and tips for a successful Litterblitz.

Join *Walden Creek/Walden Estates HOA, Briarcreek NA, Canyon North NA, Westlawn Gardens NA, Mesta Park NA* and *Windsor Hills NA* just to name a few and plan a Litterblitz event for your neighborhood.

Contact OKC Beautiful at 525-8822 or log on at [www.okcbeautiful.com](http://www.okcbeautiful.com) to get more information and sign up today!

## Saturday Morning Sweep April 1 – September 30

If you have a large neighborhood clean-up project, Saturday Morning Sweep may be just the program to help.

Sponsored by the City of OKC Solid Waste Management division, Saturday Morning Sweep is a neighborhood enhancement program designed to assist in beautifying your neighborhood. Once a year neighborhood associations can apply to have a one-day clean up event. A roll-off dumpster will be delivered to your neighborhood at approximately 7 a.m. on the Saturday of your choice. Your volunteers can fill it up with tree limbs and litter collected from neighborhood areas. Then Solid Waste Management will pick up the dumpster and haul the trash away.

This free event is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Ben Davis, Volunteer Coordinator, OKC Solid Waste Management says that this year's sweep is off to a great start with 7 neighborhoods signed up for April. Call Ben at 749-3092 to schedule your neighborhood clean-up today!

## The City of OKC Curbside Recycling

Weekly curbside recycling is included in OKC trash service. **Recycling couldn't be easier**; just place your clean recyclables in the small blue bin and set it out at the curb on trash day.

Recyclable items include: newspapers and magazines, junk mail and phone books, aluminum cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastic containers stamped with a ♻ or ♻ on the bottom. We can all do our part to improve the environment and keep unnecessary trash out of our landfills.

Don't have a "little blue"? Call 297-2833 and one will be delivered to you. For more information about recycling log on to [www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov) and go to "City Departments – Water Utilities".

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center

Left over paint from your last remodeling project cluttering up your garage? Cleaning solutions or pesticides you no longer want to use? **Don't throw hazardous materials in the trash;** it can be dangerous to you, your family, your neighbors, the trash collection workers and the environment.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection center at 3738 SW 15th, SW 15th and Portland, provides a safe and easy way to dispose of hazardous materials. **Did we mention that this is easy?** You don't even have to get out of your car. HHW staff will remove the materials from your car – and you are moving on to the rest of your day!

The facility is open from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm Tuesday through Friday and 8:30 am to 11:30 am on Saturday. Call 682-7038 or check out the "Community & Citizen

Services" section on [www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov) for all the details on this free drive-through service.

Your neighborhood can also schedule a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event. Call 682-7038 today to find out how!

### Household Hazardous Waste Special Collection Event

**Saturday, April 29th, 2006**

**9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**State Fairgrounds**

**Enter from Gordon Cooper Blvd. (Gate 3) from North May.**

Bring in unwanted tires (no rims or wheels will be accepted), ammunition, computers and computer accessories. This event is open to Oklahoma City residents only. Please bring your water utility bill to verify residency.

# Proactive Code Enforcement Update

It has been just over a year since the city of OKC began their Proactive Code Enforcement program and Code Enforcement director Charles Locke says that "based on the feed back we are getting from the neighborhoods it is a very popular program".



In January 2005, City inspectors began driving through target neighborhoods looking for code violations, rather than waiting for problems to be called in. The results are dramatic! To

date, there have been 12,836 new cases started in the target neighborhoods. That is nearly double the number of cases opened in the year prior to proactive code enforcement. Of those cases, owners have abated nearly half. These impressive numbers are having a positive impact. Says Locke, "we are starting to see improvement in the neighborhoods and a steady increase in compliance".

Locke hopes to be able to expand the program to all of the neighborhoods in the inner city, but the resources are not available to do that just yet. In the meantime, he wants to assure everyone that the City inspectors are still responding to all complaints throughout the city and citizen involvement continues to be important as ever.

If you see a condition that you feel needs to be addressed, call the Action Center at 297-2535, or go online to [www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov). They will insure that the complaint gets forwarded to the proper department for resolution.

Neighborhood Alliance • The Corner Post • Spring 2006

## Code Enforcement 411 Tuesday, May 9, 2006

*Ever wonder what happens when you call the Action Center? Did you know you can make your complaint anonymously? Do you have burning questions about OKC city codes? Then Code Enforcement 411 is where you need to be.*

*This workshop will focus on the City of OKC Code Enforcement programs, the impact of Zoning on Code Enforcement and some of the resources available to residents for taking care of their homes and neighborhoods.*

*Speakers at this workshop will include: Ward 6 Councilwoman Ann Simank, Charles Locke, City of OKC Neighborhood Services; Kerry Sims, Action Center; John Wilson, City of OKC Planning Department; Ben Davis, City of OKC Solid Waste Management; Bob Dailey, City of OKC Neighborhood Services Housing and Neighborhood Programs and Katie Sutton, OKC Beautiful.*

*Plan to join us from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 3700 North Walker (on the corner of NW 36th & Walker) for this very informative evening. A light supper will be provided.*

*Call 528-6322 to reserve your spot today!*



## Cinnamon Bundt Cake

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup sour cream
- 3/4 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 eggs
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 cup white sugar

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Lightly grease one 10-inch bundt pan.
2. Cream 1 1/2 cups white sugar together with eggs until well blended. Add sour cream and butter or margarine and beat well. Add flour, baking soda, and baking powder and mix well. Stir in vanilla and the chopped nuts.
3. Mix the remaining 1/4 cup of white sugar with the cinnamon.
4. Pour half of the batter into the prepared pan. Sprinkle generously with the cinnamon sugar mixture. Cover with remaining cake batter.
5. Bake at 400° F for 8 minutes. Lower heat to 350°F and bake for an additional 40 minutes.
6. Share with your neighbors and make some new friends!

# Bundt Cake Can Be A Crime Fighting Tool

Did you know you can fight crime with a bundt cake? According to the National Council on Crime Prevention you can! This prestigious national group says that social neighborhoods, ones where neighbors know each other, have far less crime.

The reason? It is really very simple. If you know the people on your block, know where and when they go to work, when they go on vacation, their children's names, etc., then you are far more likely to recognize suspicious activity going on around their property.

**If you see suspicious activity you know what to do, right? Bingo! Call 911 and report it.** Burglars will quickly learn that they can't get away with stealing in your neighborhood, you and your neighbors are too well connected to make their illegal dreams a success. So... they move on to find a neighborhood where they can be successful, one where no one knows each other, where everyone turns a blind eye and seldom, if ever, reports suspicious activity.

Which kind of neighborhood do you want to live in? A social, crime-free neighborhood where you know your home is being protected even when you are away? Or one where you politely wave at your neighbors when you see them outdoors, don't really know much about them and therefore don't really know what constitutes suspicious activity at their house?

Bake a bundt cake. Invite your neighbors over for coffee or take a piece of cake over to their house and say, "Hi! We've been neighbors for two years now and I am embarrassed to admit I have not taken the time to get to know you. I read an article recently that said we are each others best crime prevention tool. Do you have time to visit for a few minutes?"

*It really is that simple!*

## The Oklahoma Regional Community Policing Institute

announces **FREE Online Training Programs**

[www.orcpi.com](http://www.orcpi.com)

### *The Muslim World & Radical Islam*

The purpose of this online course is to familiarize the participant with Muslim history and religion, the world-wide distribution of the Muslim faith, and to give an overview of some of the radical groups within the Muslim faith and their activities.

### *Identity Theft*

The purpose of this online course is to familiarize the participant with the incidents of identity theft including recognition/acceptance, prevention and recovery. Tools for stopping the flow of misinformation and making corrections are also included in the course.

**3701 SE 15th Street, Suite 100 Del City, OK 73115**

**Telephone 405/671-8742 FAX 405/671-8745**

# Police Chief William Citty

Chief William Citty began his career with the Oklahoma City Police Department in 1977 and has worked in almost every aspect of law enforcement including Patrol, Narcotics, Homicide and Public Information to name just a few.



Chief Citty is a lifelong resident of Oklahoma City. When appointed Chief in October 2003, Citty stated “I can think of no better place in the country to be Police Chief.”

Throughout his career, Chief Citty has developed many crime prevention programs including the Campus Police program with the Oklahoma City Public School System and the OKCPD’s DARE program.

During his tenure as Chief of Police, Chief Citty has been a supporter of OKC’s neighborhoods and their role in helping to prevent crime. He states, “There’s not enough law enforcement officers to always have a presence in every area of the city. It is important for people to keep their eyes and ears open at all times, and to be observant of what is going on.”

He feels that a strong partnership with the neighborhoods is an important part of OKC’s crime prevention efforts: “It is really our job to try to help, if we can, develop these associations and give them tools, training and a list of things they must have in order to provide us with information we need when something happens.”

Chief Citty has a Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma State University. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy, Senior Management Institute for Police, Federal Emergency Management Institute and the National Executive Institute. Chief Citty has also been affiliated with many community groups such as the American Red Cross, YMCA and Youth Leadership Exchange to name a few.

We are pleased to be able to work with Chief Citty and all the fine officers who work hard to keep our city safe and peaceful.

## Youth Council of OKC

Applications are currently available for the 2006-2007 Youth Council of Oklahoma City. Eighteen high school students are chosen each year, two from each ward and two at-large, to represent their wards working with the Mayor and Oklahoma City council.

Youth councilors participate in courses and volunteer opportunities throughout the year to learn the challenges and opportunities of Oklahoma City, and how the city works. Youth councilors also act as liaisons between the city, their wards and the youth of OKC.



Youth council is a valuable opportunity for students who are interested in public service and working with the community. It is open to high school juniors and seniors with a cumulative grade point of 3.0 or higher.

Applications are available at the Oklahoma City Council office at City Hall, 200 North Walker or from Youth Leadership Exchange at 210 Park Ave, Suite 270. Applications can also be downloaded from the following websites: [www.lokc.org](http://www.lokc.org) or [www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov).

For more information contact Youth Leadership Exchange at 236-1177 or the City Council offices at 297-3884. Applications are due by April 24, 2006.



## Miller in May Home and Garden Tour and 2nd Annual Art on the Median

**Saturday, May 20th**  
**10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m**

**Miller NA** invites everyone to join them on the Miller Boulevard median for Art on the Median. In its first year, Art on the Median was very well received and complemented the Home and Garden tour in showcasing this wonderful neighborhood.

This year's home and garden tour will feature 10 homes and/or gardens throughout the neighborhood which is bounded by: **NW 16/ NW 10/ Villa/ May.**

Tickets for the home and garden tour are \$5.00 and can be purchased at any of the homes on the tour. For more information contact David Pettyjohn, Miller in May Chair, 226-8182 or david@okhumanitiescouncil.org.



## Neighborhood-wide Garage Sales:

- April 21 – 23**      **Canyon North NA**  
Hefner/ Elk Canyon/ Bayberry Drive/ Rockwell
- April 29th**        **Cleveland NA**  
NW 30/ NW 23/ Villa/ May
- May 19 – 21**      **Summerfield Community Association**  
NW 122/ Baxter Dr/ Cantle Rd/ Banyan Ln/ Hemlock Circle
- June 2 - 4**        **Windsor Forest Neighborhood Association**  
NW 23/ NW 16/ Ann Arbor/ MacArthur
- June 2 - 4**        **Windsor Hills Neighborhood Association**  
NW 36/ NW 25/ Meridan/Ann Arbor
- June 2 - 4**        **Windsor Oaks Neighborhood Association**  
NW 31/ NW 23/ Ann Arbor/ MacArthur

CLIP & SAVE

# Donor Card

The Neighborhood Alliance of Central Oklahoma helps many neighborhood associations, as well as many Oklahomans, on a daily basis. In exchange for all the services your neighborhood receives, could we count on a donation to help defray operating costs?



We are a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, and rely heavily on grants and donations for a great part of our operating funds. Check with a tax professional; your donation should be tax deductible.

Please complete and return this card with your donation to the Neighborhood Alliance office at the address below.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Neighborhood Alliance.

PAY BY CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to receive your quarterly newsletter, The Corner Post.

Yes, I would like to receive e-mails on important issues involving Central Oklahoma Neighborhoods.

For more information, please call us at 405-528-6322  
**Neighborhood Alliance of Central Oklahoma**  
1236 NW 36th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73118  
www.nacok.org

## Rx for Oklahoma

**Rx for Oklahoma is a referral program of Community Action Agency that connects income eligible individuals and families who don't have prescription drug coverage, with pharmaceutical companies offering free or low-cost maintenance medications.**



**Community Action Agency staff will help determine a client's eligibility for the programs and assist in filling out applications. Angie Dotson, Prescription Drug Program Coordinator explains, "Rx for Oklahoma is to serve each individual, who seeks our assistance, and to improve their quality of life."**

**For more information contact the Community Action Agency: 232-0199 or visit their office at 319 SW 25th Street.**



There are ten neighborhood associations that fall within designated Historic Districts in the City of OKC.

**Crown Heights  
Edgemere Heights HP**

NW 42/ NW 36/ Harvey Pkwy/Western

**Edgemere Park HP**

NW 36th/ NW 30th/ Robinson/ Walker

**Gatewood NA**

NW 23rd/ NW 16th/ N Classen/ Penn

**Historical**

**Preservation, Inc.**

NW 23rd/ NW 14th/ Robinson/ Western

**Jefferson Park HP**

NW 30/ NW 23/ Broadway Ext/ Walker

**Lincoln Terrace NA**

NW 21/ NW 14/ Phillips/ Styles

**Mesta Park NA**

NW 23/ NW 16/ N Walker  
(Except 22)/ Western

**The Paseo UCD**

NW 30/ NW 23/ Walker/ Western

**Putnam Heights HP**

NW 38/ NW 35/ Classen/ Georgia

**Shepherd HD**

NW 30/ NW 23/ Penn/ Villa

Properties within these areas are subject to Historic Preservation regulations and guidelines. For more information contact: Eva Osborne, AIA, Historic Preservation Officer, Oklahoma City Planning Department 420 W Main Street, 9th floor Oklahoma City, OK 73102; 297-3084.

# Living in History

There is nothing like good neighbors to make you feel welcomed in your neighborhood. The historic neighborhoods in OKC work hard at creating just that feeling; the feeling of being cared for and welcome by the people who live around you. The main goal of a neighborhood association is to create good neighbors and these neighborhoods are doing just that!

Typically people choose to live in historic areas because they like the feel of an older neighborhood. Most have sidewalks, front porches, and other amenities that make it more conducive to having real relationships with your neighbors. You automatically have a connection with your neighbors because you are both living and repairing an 80 year old home — instant bonding!

Historic neighborhoods typically have very active neighborhood associations that work hard to recognize new residents and to plan annual activities that encourage socialization. **Edgemere Park HP** has a monthly outing for its members called “Living on the Edge” and the “Edgemere Women” meet regularly for outings, special projects and just having fun. **Putnam Heights HP** has an annual

roving dinner, where each course is served at a different house in the neighborhood. Putnam Heights residents were also recently seen planting 20,000 daffodil bulbs in a prominent median in their neighborhood. Drive to NW 35th, just west of Classen, to see the spectacular splash of color!



*Putnam Heights Daffodils*



*Entrance Sign into Crown Heights and Edgemere Heights*

**Crown Heights and Edgemere Heights HP** residents are finishing up a beautiful new gateway marker located at NW 36th and Walker. They have planned and worked together on

this project and are still finishing up on the landscaping details. **Gatewood NA** residents are working together to complete a historical median that will commemorate the first trolley car relay station. They applied for and

received grant money to help them put up a story-marker, a cut out of a trolley car, historic light pole and a bench to permanently recognize the historic value of the old trolley car system in OKC.

Of course one of the most recognizable neighborhood activities in OKC is hosted by the historical **Mesta Park NA**. Every fall they host a citywide party called MestaFesta and hundreds of neighbors from far and wide come celebrate in their beautiful Pearle Mesta Park. Lots of neighbors join in the planning of this event and show the rest of OKC what it is like to live and play in a wonderful historic neighborhood.

*Entrance Sign into Mesta Park*



OKC's crowning jewel is **Heritage Hills HP** and they also have an active neighborhood association. The residents take great pride in their area which is evidenced by the extensive landscaping projects throughout their public areas. The centennial clock they erected at NW 13th and Shartel Blvd. is a beautiful trip back in time for anyone who passes by. The neighborhood associations' commitment to the historic Wilson School, located within their boundaries, is far reaching and even a little awe inspiring.



*Heritage Hills Period Clock*

**Jefferson Park HP** is one of the most pro-active historic districts in OKC. Their neighborhood association works to assure people have the opportunity to own historic homes by purchasing run down properties, renovating and then selling them as

owner-occupied residences. They do an excellent job in the remodeling and usually sell to first time homebuyers. **Paseo UCD** is another pro-active success story. At one point the area had a 57% vacancy rate and an abysmal average price per square foot. The neighborhood association got involved, cleaned up the area, encouraged first time home-buyers, worked closely with OKC Planning Department and now they demand some of the highest per square foot prices in the inner-city.

**Lincoln Terrace NA** has recently been approved for a major restructuring of the medians that run alongside their neighborhood from the OU Health Sciences Center all the way to the State Capitol. Several of these medians will be closed to through traffic and the neighborhood plans on a major landscaping project all the way down this site. **Shepherd HD** is a quaint, very cohesive area tucked in behind Shepherd Mall. Like most of the other neighborhood associations, they have a great neighborhood newsletter and get together frequently for socials, picnics and activities.

People love living in historic neighborhoods as much for the sociability as for the architecture. No matter where in Oklahoma you live you are bound to have one very interesting person living nearby. Go out and meet them and become a GOOD NEIGHBOR.

## City of Oklahoma City Awards Grants

The final two 2005-2006 City of OKC Neighborhood Partnership grants were recently awarded. **Sequoyah Neighborhood Association (NW 36th St./Cashion/Penn/Villa)** received \$8,948 to upgrade their crime patrol equipment and to host a "Light up the Night" crime prevention event in their neighborhood. Sequoyah is home to the longest running volunteer crime patrol unit in Oklahoma City. Much of their equipment is almost 20 years old and this grant will help update and refurbish their patrol.

**Edwards Community Club (NE 23/NE 10/Bryant/Page)** was awarded \$10,000 to do a period lighting and signage project in their historic neighborhood. Once their project is complete the neighborhood association plans to host an Edwards Homecoming. All current and former residents of the area will be invited to celebrate the strides being taken to preserve and protect the history and culture of this unique area in our community.

Congratulations to both of these associations. The next grant deadline is September 12, 2006. Please contact Georgie (528-6322) today to find out if your neighborhood qualifies for these funds.

***Did your neighborhood have so much fun at Litterblitz that they would like to do more?***

Consider signing up for Adopt-A-Park or Adopt-A-Street, these programs are a great way to get neighbors involved and excited about your neighborhood.

For information on Adopt-A-Park contact OKC Beautiful at 525-8822 or go visit them online at [www.okcbeautiful.com](http://www.okcbeautiful.com).

For Adopt-A-Street contact the City of OKC Public Works department at 297-2581 or go online at [www.okc.gov](http://www.okc.gov)

## **National Volunteer Week April 23 – 29, 2006**

This year's theme "Inspire by Example" reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help, as well as, to inspire others to serve!

It is important to remember all the hardworking people that make our neighborhoods wonderful places to live.

# **Neighborhood Kudos**

*There are so many neighborhoods doing amazing things that it is hard to know where to start.*

**Blue Quail Ridge** has participated in OKC's Adopt-a-Street Program since 1999. They have removed approximately 4000 pounds of trash from the east side of North May Avenue between NW 150th and NW 158th. Great job to the volunteers who contributed 280 hours of service in this effort. Speaking of Adopt-a-Street, we would like to thank **Hunter Young** and the **OKC Curiosity Scooter Club** for adopting NW 36th Street from Classen to Western. **Fairdale, Belle Isle, Riviera NA (FBIR)** has successfully raised over \$3000 through the Neighborhood Alliance Pass-through program to install ornamental street lights in their neighborhood. **Blue Stem HOA** has also used the Pass-through program to raise nearly \$10,000 for beautifying their entrances and updating their street lights. *Way to go everyone!* **Lincoln Terrace NA** is ready to begin landscaping and beautifying the median down Lindsay Avenue from the State Capitol to the Health Sciences Center. NE 14th, NE 15th and NE 16th will all be closed along Lindsay Avenue to help traffic flow through their neighborhood. **Windsor Oaks, Windsor Hills, Windsor Forest and Meridian Hills NA's** organized a meeting for their neighborhood board members and the OKC planning department to determine ways in which they could encourage business development in and around their neighborhoods. Through this meeting they have organized the Windsor Area Neighborhood Development group (WAND) to pursue new business initiatives for their area. *Way to work together!* We applaud **Edgemere Park HP** as the first to advertise National Night Out, which is set for August 1, 2006. Their committee is already working to plan their event. **Edgemere Park HP** is also hosting "Good Neighbor Day" in April – a day where neighborhood residents are encouraged to do odd jobs to help the seniors in their neighborhood. **Oakcliff NA** was recently visited by Principal Oneta James who came to thank them for their efforts on behalf of Bodine Elementary. **Oakcliff NA** is also working on behalf of Oakridge Elementary School to get neighbors and parents involved in PTA and other valuable projects at both schools. What a great way to let the neighborhood kids know that you care. **Heritage Hills HP** showed their extraordinary support for Wilson School by presenting them with a very sizeable donation. *Wow!* **Edgewater/Lakepointe NA** hosted their annual appreciation dinner for their Patrollers and Block Captains in late February. **Miller NA** hosted a volunteer appreciation meeting and potluck in March. What a great idea to let neighbors know their efforts are appreciated! **The Near Northwest Association** recently adopted by-laws and is well on their way to a successful organization. See page 5 for more information on this exciting group. **Crestwood NA** has shown their support for all neighborhood residents and elected a renter – Pat Bond – as NA president, reminding us all that everyone – homeowners, landlords, renters and businesses – have a vested interest in the health and success of their neighborhood. We would also like to congratulate **Cleveland UCD** on receiving the OKC Beautiful Community Spirit award for all the hard work they have put into neighborhood improvement projects over the years.

***Keep up the good work everyone!***

# National Night Out To Be Held August 1st

We all know social neighborhoods are also safer neighborhoods. National Night Out is a nationwide event that promotes safer communities by encouraging all neighborhoods, blocks, and other groups to do something social and visible one night of the year. That night is always the first Tuesday of August. **This year's event is August 1, 2006.**

On that night we invite you to host a social activity for you and your neighbors. It can be a picnic, a covered dish dinner, a bicycle parade, a backyard BBQ, or simply inviting your neighbors to come over for iced tea on your front porch. The purpose is not to make you do a lot of planning, the purpose is for you and your neighbors to visit and get to know one another.



Last year more than 60 OKC area neighborhoods joined in this citywide event and we expect even more this year. Public dignitaries get in on the fun as well by making appearances at all the parties, supporting you and your neighbors in your effort to create a safer city for us all. City Council members, Police and Fire Chiefs, the Mayor, County Commissioners, State Representatives and State Senators all make the rounds to area activities. Of course you can issue the invitation to these public figures yourself, but when you register your event with Neighborhood Alliance we make sure they all have the master roster listing the activities citywide.

Neighborhood Alliance will be sending out planning packets to each neighborhood in late April, but it is not too early to get your planning committee together now. Start brainstorming your ideas and figure out what you want to do. You will be joining over 34 million people nationwide and over 6,000 people citywide in saying loud and clear: we are a cohesive neighborhood and we report all suspicious activity to police.

***Burglars beware!***

## National Crime Prevention Council: TCC Grants

The National Crime Prevention Council is currently giving out grants of up to \$500 through its Teens, Crime and Community initiative. These grants support service learning projects planned and implemented by youth who identify needs and create projects to address or prevent crime, violence, and drug abuse in their schools and communities. These grants are intended to encourage and promote crime prevention, community service, and civic responsibility.

Applicants must be between the ages of 11 - 19 and participating in a Community Works, Youth Safety corps program or be in a youth group or class of more than six members. Deadline for application is June 1, 2006.

For more information and to download and application go to [www.ncpc.org/programs/tcc/grant.php](http://www.ncpc.org/programs/tcc/grant.php)



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Log on today!

The Neighborhood Alliance  
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## Upcoming Events

**Code Enforcement 411**  
**Tuesday, May 9th 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Everything you and your neighbors need to know about code enforcement and what can be done to clean up problem areas in and around your neighborhood. We will be joined by Ward 6 Councilwoman Ann Simank, City of OKC personnel from Neighborhood Services, Planning and Solid Waste Management, Oklahoma City Beautiful and many others in an event filled with information about city codes and the programs available to assist in cleaning up and beautifying your neighborhood. See page 7 for further details.

Call 528-6322 and let us know that you will come.

## Crime Patroller's Training

Patrol trainings have been scheduled at the Hefner Division Station. These trainings are for neighborhoods with **established patrols only**, if you need a refresher training or have a few new members to add to your patrol then you will want to attend. Please see page 5 for the dates and more information.