



BCNA NEWSLETTER

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June/July 2008

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BLUFF CREEK

NNO 2008 - Tuesday, August 5, 2008 25th Annual National Night Out

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO) is a unique crime-prevention event sponsored nationally by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) and Target, and locally by Neighborhood Alliance. Last year NNO 2007 involved 34 million people in 10,000 communities from throughout the United States and Canada, as well as US Military bases worldwide.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten awareness of crime prevention
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Bluff Creek Neighborhood will mark **NNO 2008** with our annual Neighborhood get together and cookout featuring food, fire truck and fun! Mark you calendar:

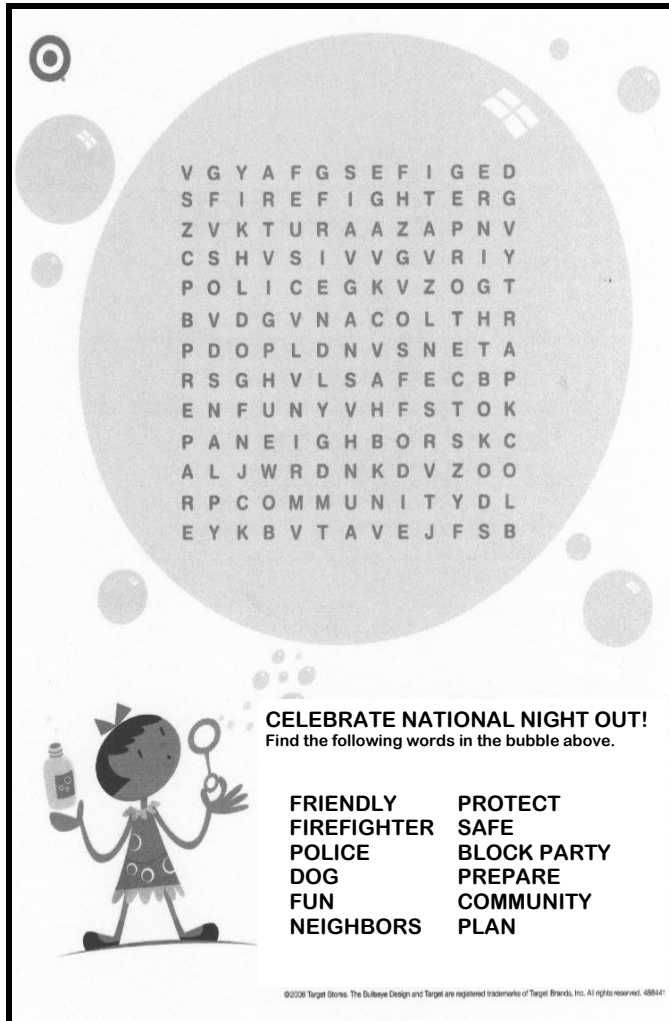
August 5, 2008, 6:30 pm --Corner of 109th and St. Charles.

In Memoriam

Long-time resident of Bluff Creek, Jean Thornton, died June 29, 2008. She was a very avid and active supporter of the Bluff Creek Neighborhood Association and friend to many of our residents. Jean had distinguished careers in teaching and in real estate. Her many accomplishments include the 1994 Realtor of the Year, Educator of the Year award, member of the Million Dollar Club in Real Estate for 20 years, OKC-MAR Board of Directors and numerous other offices with the City and State Associations of Real Estate.

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Nominating Committee Appointed

The Association President has appointed a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the Association's officers for 2009. Officers are voted on at the annual general meeting in October. The Nominating Committee appointees are Sherry Meek, Tony Hill, and David Ward, with Sherry Meek as Chair. If you or someone you know would like to hold office please contact any member of the Nominating Committee.

Sherry Meek: 721-7771

Tony Hill: 720-1202

David Ward: 720-0209

City Encourages Storm Shelter Registration

The City of Oklahoma City invites residents to register their storm shelters by contacting the Action Center at 297-2535. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is using the information provided by residents about their storm shelters to create a computer database of their locations. GIS has the ability to retrieve valuable information such as the type of shelter, the location of the shelter on the property and emergency contact phone numbers for the property occupants. This information can be used to create maps of areas that are hit by severe weather.

The Oklahoma City Fire and Police Departments as well as Oklahoma City Emergency Management can use these maps to organize searches for residents who may be safe from the storm but trapped inside their shelter by debris lying on top of it.

Call to register your shelter Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Be sure to provide the Action Center with information about the shelter, including where it is located on the property, what type of shelter it is, and provide your name and phone number.

Free Smoke Alarm Program

The Oklahoma City Fire Department is offering free smoke alarms and batteries to Oklahoma City residents. Residents who wish to receive a free smoke alarm need to contact their local fire station. If you need assistance with installation, please let the local fire station know. They will send personnel to help you! Our local fire station is at 11601 N. MacArthur, and their telephone number is 722-2461.

Elections 2008

Important dates to remember:

Primary Election: Tuesday, July 29

Runoff Primary Election: Tuesday, August 26

General Election: November 4

Contact the Oklahoma County Election Board, 405-713-1515, for dates and times for early voting and any questions regarding elections.



Illegally-placed Signs Draw City Attention

A refresher on the dos and don'ts of signage seems appropriate with political campaigning on the horizon. A City ordinance that bans signs in rights of way and on other City properties has resulted in the collection and disposal of thousands of illegally placed signs. The location of City rights of way varies depending on the width of the street. Along highly traveled arterial roadways where most of the signs can be found, the right of way can be as much as 26 feet from the curb. On most residential streets, the right of way is generally 12 feet from the curb. Signs are also illegal when placed in medians, parks, on utility poles, hydrants or street signs. In almost all cases temporary signs are illegal, regardless of whether they are placed in the median or not.

In 2006, the City Council strengthened the Municipal Code on sign violations in several ways, including allowing employees, rather than just police officers and code enforcement officers, to remove illegally placed signs. They also amended Oklahoma Municipal Code Ordinance No. 23413 to require City crews to throw away signs once they are picked up. The City previously allowed owners to buy back their signs for 25 cents per sign. Council also voted to increase the fine for offenders from \$200 to \$500, and also gave the Mayor and City Council the authority to pick up illegally placed signs.

If you have illegal signs to report, please call the Action Center at 297-2535 and give a detailed description of the location of the sign, as well as the type of sign and what it says. Signs placed illegally in the City right of way could include plastic placards, real estate signs, political signs and handmade garage sale signs

Treasurer Reports on Dues

Hi Neighbors,

Well, here is the standing on annual dues payments: last year 62% of our neighbors paid their dues, so far this year 56% have paid. I want to thank all who have paid.

Even with rising costs for lawn care and utility bills, Association dues are still only \$40.00 per year.

This is just a reminder that Association dues help maintain activities benefiting the entire neighborhood. If you haven't yet done so, please take a minute now to write a check for 2008 dues and mail it to:

***Bluff Creek Neighborhood Assoc
c/o Andy Zguris
5800 NW 109th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73162***

Thank you for your concern.

Andy Zguris... BCNA Treasurer

Bluff Creek Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Officers

President—Dave Ward	721-0209
Vice Pres.—Vacant	
Treasurer—Andy Zguris	773-3668
Secretary—Sherry Meek	721-7771
Historian—Helen Skinner	728-2920
Parliamentarian—J. Gorelick	720-8885

Committees

Security—Tony Hill	720-1292
Activities—Brenda Carroll	722-3882
Newsletter—J. Gorelick	720-8885
Nominating—Sherry Meek	721-7771

Your News

Share your special events with your neighbors. Items can be reported to the newsletter editor or to your Block Captain. If you don't know who your Block Captain is, contact newsletter editor, J. Gorelick, 720-8885.



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