



# BCNA NEWSLETTER

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November/December 2007

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BLUFF CREEK

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## BLUFF CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The BCNA annual meeting was held on October 23rd at 7:00 pm at Spring Creek Baptist Church. The guest speaker was Ward 8 Councilman Patrick Ryan. He commented on the success of the Oklahoma Centennial Regatta on the Oklahoma River and announced that Oklahoma City is set to host the U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Sprint Canoe/Kayak in 2008. He discussed some of the many improvements made possible in Oklahoma City through MAPS, including the increase in number of hotel rooms and residential units in downtown OKC. He told us the new Northwest Library is to be located on the south side of 122nd just east of MacArthur (by the way, if you would like to give your input for what you would like to see in this library, go to [http://www.metrolibrary.org/mls/mls\\_library/nw.html](http://www.metrolibrary.org/mls/mls_library/nw.html)). He also discussed the upcoming bond issue to be voted on December 11th (see page 3 for more on this). During the Q&A some of the topics discussed included the light to be installed at Ann Arbor and Hefner, which he said could take years to get installed as

lights have been approved without funding available to actually install them (money for this light is part of the bond issue); the deer herd living near Bluff Creek - the herd is getting large and posing a potential hazard for both deer and drivers, though no resolution was reached for the problem; condition of neighborhood streets—Councilman Ryan explained that all streets, including residential, are graded from 1-100 about every 2 years, and grade determines when they are scheduled for repairs; The I-40 project is running on schedule and due to open in 2012, with the existing I-40 becoming a boulevard into downtown OKC; The Oklahoma River will be used for transportation. The first water taxi will hold 49 passengers and travel from Meridian to downtown, with 2 more water taxis arriving in 2008, thanks to Devon Energy who purchased the boats; as part of the Trails Master Plan, the trail system is being expanded to connect the Lake Hefner to Lake Overholser. Most of this has been completed except a portion along Wilshire. There are also plans for an overpass over the Northwest Expressway; drainage problems at 115th & St. Charles were successfully corrected by the new drain installed there recently. If you need to contact Councilman Ryan, call 297-2404 and talk to him or his very knowledgeable assistant Kathy Smith.

President Dave Ward reported on the condition of Bluff Creek, saying that overall we are doing very well. The Neighborhood Night Out in August was a success. In addition to the usual ice cream and lemonade, we added a hot dog cookout and were joined by police and fire personnel, and Georgie Rasco of Neighborhood Alliance. The Neighborhood Alliance awarded Bluff Creek a \$25 gift card. Mr. Ward stated that if residents observe problems with vacant or rental properties, it is a good idea to contact the Action Center at 297-2535 for help. Treasurer Andy Zguris reported that 347 of the 528 homes in Bluff Creek paid dues in 2007. Annual officer elections were held, with the following results:

## OFFICERS:

President—Dave Ward	721-0209
Vice President—Sally Fayssoux	721-0904
Treasurer—Andy Zguris	773-3668
Secretary—Sherry Meek	721-7771
Historian—Helen Skinner	728-2920
Security—Tony Hill	720-1292
Activities—Brenda Carroll	722-3882
Parliamentarian—Jackie Gorelick	720-8885

Sally Fayssoux has volunteered to again serve as landscape chairman unless someone else wants to volunteer for this position (it is not an elected position).

Tony Hill will tackle the very important job of getting the security patrol up and running again. If you've been following crime statistics for Bluff Creek, you've seen that even though this is still a safe neighborhood, crime has increased recently. In the past Bluff Creek had an active security patrol and very little crime, however in the last couple of years that has reversed. Please consider contacting Tony at 720-1292 to offer your assistance. You can patrol based on whatever time schedule works best for you, and you will NEVER be asked to put yourself in danger, only to be prepared to call 911, if needed.

## Sleigh Rides

Once again BCNA will host sleigh rides. This has always been a big hit with Bluff Creek residents. Come and join the fun on Tuesday, December 11th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm starting at 114th & State St.

Remember to dress warm; hot chocolate will be served to help keep you warm. And, I'm told a certain gentlemen with a white beard and red suit is planning to join us!!



## Christmas Decorating Contest

Our annual outdoor holiday decorating contest is here again!

Your board of directors/officers will judge on the weekend of December 14-16th  
6:30-9 pm

Make sure your lights are turned on during those hours!

This year's Christmas Decorating Contest will be judged on the third weekend in December. You are all encouraged to decorate your house and/or yard, regardless of how simple or elaborate your decorations are. For a great, free holiday evening out, put your family or neighbors in the car and drive through our subdivision that weekend. You will be amazed at the beautiful decorations. The board will award \$50 to first place and \$25 to second place winners in each of these three categories: best door, best lights, best overall. I wish everyone good luck!



## A Christmas Wish

There have always been attempts to diminish or even destroy Christmas... No matter what the world does to get rid of this day it will never succeed in doing away with the true spirit of Christmas... You can't kill the Truth... So why do we celebrate? Along time ago, a little over 2000 years now, a baby was born, not just any baby, as special as they all are, this baby was really a special one, so special he had an angel proclaim his birth...He said I bring good news of great joy for everyone..."The Savior-yes the Lord has been born tonight in the town of Bethlehem... Suddenly, the angel was joined by a host of other angels and they were praising God and shouting Peace on earth and good will to all people.

At this time of the year I wish and pray for all in our neighborhood to have a great and Merry Christmas. May the true meaning of Christmas live in your hearts and in your deeds.

Merry Christmas to all

Andy





A bond election will be held on December 11th to vote on an \$835.5 million bond program. The 2007 bond election includes 11 individual propositions, and you will need to vote on each separately. Very briefly, they are:

**Proposition 1** (Streets) \$497,490,000 - Finances re-surfacing, widening and repairing 750 lane miles of residential and arterial streets, plus 350 miles of side-walks and trails.

**Proposition 2** (Bridges) \$19,760,000 - Rebuild or repair 17 bridges

**Proposition 3** (Traffic Control System) \$23,590,000 - New traffic lights, signs, street lighting and synchronization.

**Proposition 4** (Drainage Control System) - \$32,855,000 Drainage improvements around the city

**Proposition 5** (Parks and Recreational Facilities) \$89,755,000 - 14 new playgrounds, 8 basketball courts, 47 walking paths, 2 new parks plus improvements to 13 community centers and Myriad Botanical Gardens.

Includes in playground equipment for **Pat Murphy Park**

**Proposition 6** (Fire) \$15,000,000 - 3 new fire stations and rebuilding 2 older stations

**Proposition 7** (Police) \$41,200,000 - New police station and detox facility and renovate police headquarters and court complex

**Proposition 8** (Libraries) \$12,845,000 - 2 new branches and renovation of 2 existing branches

**Proposition 9** (City Maintenance Facilities) - \$20,165,000 - Expand, renovate, repair and relocate maintenance and storage facilities.

**Proposition 10** (Transit) \$7,840,000 - replace worn out vehicles and add wheelchair accessible vans.

**Proposition 11** (Economic Development) \$75,000,000 Create economic incentives for companies to relocate or expand here.

If the bond program passes, city property taxes will not increase. For more information including specific locations slated for improvement, go to <http://www.okc.gov/bonds2007/>.

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**SNOW ROUTES:**

I was not able to reproduce them here, but winter is upon us, so please be sure to check out the snow routes on the web at <http://www.okc.gov/snow/index.html>, or look for the signs around town that indicate that a street is on a snow route, since these are the first to be cleared in case of snow or ice.

Cheryl

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