

BCNA



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Newsletter

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

MAR - APR 2010

There's nothing quite like the scent of the earth on a warm Spring day when plants begin to blossom. It is the time of year when many trees and shrubs look as if they are most certainly dead but then suddenly they spring to life. Spring is a time of rebirth and renewal. The snows of winter melt away, flowers bloom, and all the world seems new again. It is the miracle of Spring.

Welcome to a New Season

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From The President / Sherry

We are greatly blessed in our neighborhood because; there is little crime, hardly any domestic harm, no major problems that costs us large sums of money... So when I sit down to write what is going on in the neighborhood, I keep coming back to community involvement. What is important to you? Community togetherness demands that the leadership and the people in Bluff Creek need to work jointly.

My goal is to increase the participation and effectiveness of neighborhood residents in shaping the future of Bluff Creek. Let's start with ideas, please email me your thoughts and suggestions on what improvements you would like the board to consider and perhaps accomplish for the betterment of Bluff Creek.

Vice Pres. Insights / Kaci

Hi Everyone,

I am always on the lookout for things going on in our city that could be a benefit to our residents.

The City is looking for local small contractors and businesses to work on public construction projects.

The City is compiling a registry of local small and disadvantaged contractors and businesses that want to subcontract on City construction projects. The new registry will be made available to general and prime contractors to use.

"This new program provides an opportunity for local small contractors and businesses, who may not be able to bid on a full project to work on City construction projects "The City wants to be proactive in achieving the goals of the programs and is actively seeking to identify and create a subcontractors database."

Interested local small and disadvantaged businesses and contractors can register by completing a Subcontractor Registration form, available on the City Web site, <http://www.okc.gov/pw/sdlb.html>. For information on the program contact the Public Works Department at 405 297-2581 or SDLBiz@okc.gov.

Andy's Opinion

send your email address to andy.zguris@gmail.com

I have decided not to include my Andy's Opinion piece in the newsletter this issue, here is the reason.

"Dear Ms. Meek,

I wanted to let you know I have a concern about the political opinion pieces that have been put into the last two newsletters. I do not feel a neighborhood association newsletter is an appropriate place for political opinions to be expressed as the newspaper is paid for by the dues of all people living in the subdivision (or at least those of us who pay our dues!), including those of us who disagree with the views being expressed. By putting the opinions in the newsletter it is implying that the BCNA endorses those views and I don't think that is right. It wouldn't be any more okay to put in more progressive/liberal opinions, either, as I don't imagine those people with views opposite mine would appreciate feeling like their dues are being used to express those opinions. Please, just keep the newsletter free of politics/religion/or issues that really don't have anything to do with keeping Bluff Creek a nice neighborhood to live in.

Unfortunately, the only way I can express my disapproval of the opinion pieces would be by withholding my dues. I would not like to do that as it is clear the neighborhood needs the dues, but that is something I would consider doing if the opinions continue to be a regular part of the newsletter."

I am not inclined to give in to this kind of thought; however I also do not want to be accused of using BCNA monies for my own benefit.... Andy send your email address to andy.zguris@gmail.com

Security / Tony

Look for more security tips from Tony in future issues of the Bluff Creek Newsletter

According to the United States Fire Administration, more than 1,200 Americans over the age of 65 die as a result of fire each year? Additionally, more than 3,000 older adults are injured each year in residential fires. In fact, seniors between the ages of 65 and 75 have a fire death rate twice that of the national average. Adults between 75 and 85 years old are three times as likely to die from fire and adults over 85 years old are four times as likely to die from fire. These staggering figures place adults over the age of 65 in one of the highest fire risk groups in the United States.

Before the Fire

Install Smoke Alarms and Replace Batteries
Plan and Practice Escape Routes

During the Fire

Get Out and Stay Out
Stay Low and Go

Fire Prevention

Smoking – Make sure that you are alert when you smoke and never smoke in bed.

Cooking – Never leave the stove unattended while cooking.

Heating – Install and maintain heating equipment correctly.

Be Proactive... don't act after the fact...

Remember, the death of an older family member and the loss of priceless family heirlooms can be prevented.

The Yard ...by gary



What a great time of year we are coming upon. Season change with the cold weather in its last gasps of holding on to us and us pushing it away with all our might. Time to get up and get after it as time is a wasting now. If you did not service your lawn mower than you had better do it now as you need to do some cutting of your warm season grasses so that you can get your crabgrass treatment down. Cut it close and get as much of the thatch up as you can. You will also begin the cutting of your cool season grasses at about 1-1/2" and increasing as the weather warms to the tallest height of 3-1/2". You can put down your first application of fertilizer on those same cool season grasses. You will be looking at four applications on the cool season grasses; now (March), then again in May, October, and lastly in November. If you are going to broadcast some cool season grass seed this is the second best time of the year to do that. The first is in the fall. But now would give that seed time to grow a root system before the heat of summer. You will need to work your flower beds now to get all of the winter weeds out and renew the old mulch and add some new mulch to help control those weeds. As you clean your beds of all the old plant debris you may start seeing the starting of some of your perennials coming back to life. Now is an excellent time to divide and replant your summer and fall blooming perennials. It will give them time to get a good root system going before the hot weather sets in. It is also the time to cut back your liriopie and other ornamental grass foliage. You can divide these also and replant. You will be surprised how many new plants you may be able to obtain from your current plants already in your beds and you can save your money that you would spend on plants for other things you may want to get for the yard. You should really look at doing this about every three years. You will be amazed how the plants respond to a little dividing and giving them new and more room to spread. You can also look at pruning your roses before new growth starts. Look first for stems that cross other stems and remove the ones that cross. They would rub against each other that makes wounds for diseases to start. Then look to open the interior of the plants so that air can circulate and help hold down mildew. As your new foliage starts to appear you will want to start you regular disease spray program. If you are looking at putting in some new trees or shrubs any where in your garden, now is the time to do that. It is a good time to plant now so the roots can get a good start before the heat of summer. Remember to make the hole as deep as the root ball but twice as wide. Make sure and mix the native soil back into the hole so the roots will have to start in that soil and start spreading out and not around the root ball. Look for any plants that may have been heaved up during our cold weather. Reset them and give them some good top dressing. We have been very lucky and had a lot of water so you will probably not have to water now. Lets get all of our gardens and yards off to a good start so we will have a beautiful growing year. Remember to get outside and get you hands dirty.

Bluff Creek Officers

President: Sherry Meek ... smeek@aol.com Vice Pres: Kaci Morris ... gkacim@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Andy Zguris ... andy.zguris@gmail.com Secretary: Mike Morris... gkacim@yahoo.com

Security: Tony Hill... itawaba@cox.net Activities: Annette Lunnon ... alunnon@cox.net

Newsletter: Andy Zguris... andy.zguris@gmail.com Landscaping: Gary Lunnon... alunnon@cox.net

send your email address to andy.zguris@gmail.com

Many people have called and asked me what can be done about cars, fences, garbage in front of houses etc. If you have any questions about what to do concerning a problem or a city ordinance in the neighborhood, call, The **Action Center** at 405 297-2535 they will route complaints and questions to other City departments and divisions, including Police, Code Enforcement and Zoning Enforcement.

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Call Mike Morris to place an add in the Newsletter 721-1582

Bluff Creek Activities

By Annette Lunnon

Ok, start your spring cleaning and get ready for the
Neighborhood Annual Garage Sale.
May 14th and 15th.

Please call me @ 603-2334 and let me know your name and address so we can get a yard sign delivered to you. We have large banners to put up at the endurances to better advertise our sale. We will also be placing an ad in the paper. Please call me no later than May 10th, so I can deliver the signs.

Mark your calendars for May 7th.

We are going to have our Spring Fling Cook Out starting at 6:00 in front of 5800 NW 109th Street. This is a good way to meet your neighbors and talk to the Neighborhood Association Board members about any questions or concerns. We are trying to keep our property values up and make this a great place to live.

We are going to have a "major award" just like in Christmas Story. Only ours will be starting in May of this year and be awarded every month through October. Starting in May the Bluff Creek Neighborhood Association will have a "Yard of the Month". There will be \$25.00 cash to go along with this "major award" sign to be placed in the winning yard each month. We are going to play this by ear the first year and set no guide lines and just let the eyes of the judges pick what appears best to their eyes. The only requirement is that you must, be a paid up member of the Bluff Creek Neighborhood Association. Good luck to all members and happy gardening.

I would like to thank all those who have and WILL pay their dues. It is because of you we can have cookouts, update landscaping, Christmas sleigh rides, and of course our monthly obligations for lawn care and utilities. I would ask those who have not yet sent in your dues, please consider doing so now. We want to continue updating our neighborhood in order that property values increase and those who visit homes for sale will want to move to Bluff Creek. Thank You
....andy

send your email address to andy.zguris@gmail.com