

## THE MONTHLY UPDATE

*This mailing includes your neighborhood crime reports (for OCPD neighborhoods) and information that we think will be of interest to OKC Metro-Area Residents. Please forward this information to your neighborhood newsletter editor and/or webmaster so that they can share it with the neighborhood. Everything in this insert is free for you to re-use!*

### Upcoming Workshops with Neighborhood Alliance

#### Organizing & Officer Training

- **Monday, Nov 3, 6pm (For Voluntary Neighborhood Associations)**
- **Tuesday, Nov 4, 6pm (For Homeowner Associations with Mandatory Dues)**

Held at the Neighborhood Alliance office, this informal session is open to anyone who wants to find out how to get their neighborhood or HOA organized and/or learn more about being a neighborhood officer. **If you've just been elected, you don't want to miss it!** Please note that there are now two different sessions: on the first Monday of each month we'll meet with voluntary neighborhood associations and on the first Tuesday with HOAs that have mandatory dues. A light dinner is served. The workshop is free but seats are limited. Reserve online at [nacok.org/events/](http://nacok.org/events/) or call 528-6322 to reserve a seat.

### Oklahoma City launches mobile app

Oklahoma City officials launched a new mobile app today that makes it easier for residents to report code violations.

The app, OKC Gov, is available to download free on Android and Apple devices from [www.okc.gov/action](http://www.okc.gov/action) or from the Android or Apple app stores.

Residents can also report code violations by logging on to [okc.gov/action](http://okc.gov/action) or by emailing [action.center@okc.gov](mailto:action.center@okc.gov)

### Reducing Soliciting

Are you and your neighborhood tired of door to door solicitors? Do you know it is against the law to post "This Neighborhood does not Allow Solicitors" signs in and around your neighborhood? It is against the first amendment to tell people where they can and cannot speak. However, as an individual property owner, you have the right to post a "**No Solicitation**" sign on your door.

The best way for your neighborhood to battle solicitors is to get educated and to not allow these "salespeople" to get a foothold in your neighborhood.

- **Fact:** All door to door salespeople have to be registered by the City of OKC.
- **Fact:** Once registered the registered solicitor receives a badge that has a date issued stamp and they are required to wear it visibly around their neck.

Your neighborhoods role is to act as one. Every time a solicitor comes to your door you should immediately tell them, "I am sorry, but my neighbors and I never buy anything from an unlicensed solicitor". Then politely say goodbye and lock your door.

Once these salespeople get that same response from 2-3 homes they will leave your neighborhood and find a "not so connected" neighborhood to try and fool!

**Stay connected! Act as one and let solicitors know that they you do not tolerate illegal behavior of ANY KIND!!**

### Neighborhood Patrol Training

If you have an authorized volunteer patrol in your neighborhood and need to train additional volunteers, please note that training sessions will be held at **the Hefner Police Station, 3924 NW 122** on the following date: **October 20th from 6:30pm to 7:30pm**

To enroll or for more information, contact MSgt. Robert Skalla at [robert.skalla@okc.gov](mailto:robert.skalla@okc.gov).

To learn how to start a patrol in your neighborhood, contact Neighborhood Alliance at 528-6322.



The Eighth Annual  
**NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> 2014**  
**GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS**  
*Banquet*

**TICKETS & DETAILS**

 Neighborhood Alliance  
nacok.org  
405.528.6322/info@nacok.org

**GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS 2014 FINALISTS**

**BEST NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATIONS**

Edgemere Park Preservation  
Mesta Park  
Rock Knoll Association

**BEST NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT**

Community Fair (*Friends of NW 10th Street*)  
Shade Tree Festival (*Shepherd HD and Sequoyah NA*)  
Bikelanes for Britton (*Briarcreek*)

**BEST COMMUNITY NEIGHBOR**

Ingrid's Kitchen (tie with) Staybridge Suites  
Sonic Corp.  
Terracon Consultants, Inc

**GOOD NEIGHBOR OF THE YEAR**

Neila Crank-Clements (*Gatewood UCD*)  
Pastor James Dorn Jr. (*Mt. Triumph Baptist Church*)  
Paul Thiel (*Remington HOA*)

**NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR**

College Hill  
Military Park  
Quail Creek

**CLEVELAND NEIGHBORHOOD FALL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 8:00AM - 4:00PM**

Cleveland Neighborhood is having a Community Garage Sale Saturday, October 18th. If you have any junk or treasures you would like to donate please e-mail [clevelandneighborhood@hotmail.com](mailto:clevelandneighborhood@hotmail.com). We will come by your house and pick up your donations. We hope this will help people that have items they want to get rid of, but don't want to have a garage sale of their own. All proceeds from the Community Garage Sale will go towards the Cleveland Neighborhood Beautification Fund.

**Neighborhood Alliance in support of the Abandon House Ordinance:**

Director of Development Services proposed an ordinance that when approved will accomplish three things:

1. Escalating fines for property maintenance citations. These new fines will enhance our current property maintenance program.
2. The second provision of the ordinance repeals the sections of the ordinance that related to the Vacant and Abandoned Building Registry ordinance.
3. Create an Abandoned Building ordinance that establishes procedures for staff to develop a Public Safety cost recovery program used for properties that have been declared unsecured or dilapidated and then declared abandoned by the City Council.

These procedures are consistent with House Bill 2620 that became effective August 21, 2014. The final vote will be at the Oct. 21st OKC City Council Meeting.

**Mesta Park's First Architecture + Fitness Walking Tour set for Saturday, October 25.**

The first-ever **Mesta Park Architecture + Fitness Walking Tour**, set for Saturday, October 25th, departs from Mesta Park amphitheatre at 10AM sharp! An excellent guide will highlight Mesta Park's crazy-diverse architecture styles and rich local history and lore.



Also talk present-day Mesta Park: HalloweenMania — "Porch-Gazing" — Holiday Home Tour — Historic Preservation — Midtown Renaissance — Urban Agriculture and more! Tickets are available online at: <http://www.mestapark.org/walking-tour>

**Oklahoma City Animal Shelter offers October Specials—Don't Shop! Adopt!**

Dog lovers are in luck! Adoption fees for dogs and puppies are half price – just \$30 during the entire month of October to celebrate adopt-a-dog month. All Animal Shelter pets are sterilized, vaccinated and treated for fleas and ticks. The Oklahoma City Animal Shelter is open from noon to 5:45 p.m. every day except holidays at SE 29 & Bryant, 1.5 miles east of Interstate 35. Adoptable pets can be viewed online at <http://www.okc.gov/animalwelfare/adoption.html>



## Pumpkinville, presented by OGE Energy Corp., Returns to Myriad Botanical Gardens Oct. 10 – 31:

Pumpkinville is a special celebration of pumpkins and all things fall. The Children's Garden will be transformed with more than 3,000 pumpkins, and kids and families will enjoy games, craft, pumpkin painting, entertainment and a cornucopia of fantastic fall fun! Admission is FREE for Myriad Botanical Gardens members. Nonmembers pay \$5 per child and \$3 per adult.

The Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory will feature a special exhibit from October 3 – 31, "Plants, Poisons and Potions," which will highlight both the real and imaginary world of mystical and sometimes deadly plants. The exhibit is FREE with regular Crystal Bridge admission, which is \$8 per adult and \$5 per child ages 4-12. For guests who are not members of the Gardens but who would like to see the exhibit and attend Pumpkinville, there is a special two-fer rate. For just \$8 per

adult and \$7 per child, nonmember guests may visit Pumpkinville AND the Crystal Bridge. Both are free for members.

A special Halloween Party will be held from 6-8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25. With the theme of "Garden Monster Bash," the monsters at this Halloween party are definitely more friendly than frightening. Join us for ghoulish garden games, eerie entertainment and spook-alicious treats. There will be prizes for those who don their creepy, crawly and cute costumes. Party prices are: members: \$5 per child; \$3 per adult; nonmembers: \$10 per child; \$8 per adult. RSVP is required in advance due to limited space.

Reserve early by registering online at [www.myriadgardens.org](http://www.myriadgardens.org)

## Keep Your Children Safe on Halloween!

### For Trick or Treaters:

1. **Cross the street safely at corners. Use traffic signals and crosswalks. Walk and always look left, right and then left again before crossing.**
2. **Stay on sidewalks or paths. No sidewalks? Then walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.**
3. **Slow down, stay alert.**
4. **Young children should always be with an adult.**
5. **Costumes should be safe. Have children carry glow sticks and flashlights.**

### These are for drivers:

1. **SLOW DOWN!** Most often, trick-or-treating is done between 5:30 and 9:30pm.
2. **Be especially alert.** Take extra time to look for children at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
3. **PUT UP CELL PHONES!** You would not want to hurt a child because you had a text or talk on the phone.



**EVERYONE STAY SAFE AND HAVE A WONDERFUL HALLOWEEN!**



**Pumpkins for a Purpose** Treat your "punkin" to a pumpkin and help the Zoo! Honor your friends, kids, pets or a special someone by sponsoring a personalized pumpkin to be placed in the special Haunt the Zoo Pumpkin Patch. Click on the form at [www.okczoo.com/haunt-the-zoo/](http://www.okczoo.com/haunt-the-zoo/) and follow the instructions. Forms with checks must be received by the Zoo no later than October 26. Then don't forget, when you're at Haunt the Zoo, stop by the Pumpkin Patch and look for your honoree's pumpkin!

**31st Annual Haunt the Zoo for Halloween! Oct 26th - Oct 31st 6:30pm to 8:30pm (rain or shine)** Haunt the Zoo is a hauntingly good time for the whole family and

a safe alternative to traditional Halloween events. Trick-or-treaters will be greeted by friendly mascot characters before embarking on the Haunt the Zoo trail. Children with tickets will receive an official treat bag so they can stop at festive, fantasy-themed booths to collect tasty treats from volunteers. More info at [www.okczoo.com](http://www.okczoo.com)



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**OKC**

**NEIGHBORHOOD  
HOME TOURS**

**Gatewood Home Tour**

Sunday, October 26th  
Contact: J'Anna Knight,  
rumblingdragon@yahoo.com



For more info: scan or search for  
GatewoodOKC.com

**Miller Mantle Tour**

Friday, December 5th  
Contact: Bruce Hall,  
bhall@lopezfoods.com



For more info: scan or search for  
"Miller Neighborhood Association OKC"  
on Facebook.

**Mesta Park Home Tour**

Saturday - Sunday, December 6-7th  
Contact:  
hometour@mestapark.org



For more info: scan or search for  
MestaPark.org

**HOME TOUR SEASON IN OKC!**

These beautiful, historic areas are gearing up to treat you to an eyeful of discerning design. Typically, tickets can be purchased at any of the tour homes, the day(s) of the tour, local retail establishments in advance, and sometimes online. Get your tickets and map and embark on a self-guided route through the neighborhood, viewing gardens, enjoying fanciful mantles and touring homes ranging from snug bungalows to some of OKC's most exquisite estates.

Each tour is independently run by its neighborhood association and proceeds benefit that neighborhood.

**A word from one of our PCR Officers:  
MSgt Bob Skalla, Hefner Division**

I have been the Hefner Division Police Community Relations officer for almost 18 months now and I am constantly evaluating my performance and looking for ways to improve my service to the community. I am retiring from the Oklahoma Air National guard February 2015; after 29 years of honorable service to this great nation.

What makes our nation great? What makes our Cities thrive? What makes our neighborhoods strong and vibrant? .....Leadership or the lack of leadership will define your organization and determine your directional outcome.

I have been to many neighborhood meetings and have observed some great leadership resulting in uniting the common threads of the residents. **A very important component is uniting the fight by bringing people together for a common goal.** We have many issues that divide our homes and neighborhoods. I believe we have far more areas that unite us as a great people and community. When we the people bond together, the sky is the limit! We must grow leaders in our neighborhoods in order to keep the continuity strong; we must be very deliberate about this.

I also believe, that a good leader is a very honest person who exhibits integrity in all that they do. Service before self must be at the forefront. Being able to delegate responsibilities will help prevent the burnout phase from taking place. Communication is critical for sharing and disseminating the vision of the leader and empowering those that will be change agents. Having a good sense of humor will help keep things in proper perspective. Maintaining a high level of confidence, especially during challenging situations will resonate with followers and inspire them to stay on course and fight the good fight. Being committed 100% for the cause will establish a clear pathway that will navigate through any possible derailments of the plan. Keeping a positive attitude will help with energy output and your attitude will determine your altitude!

**We are on the winning team!**

Remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, so that we can assemble and have free neighborhood associations without censorship!

**Leadership: The ability to influence those to take action and follow the plan.**

