

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, Dec 1, 6pm (For Voluntary Neighborhood Associations)
- Tuesday, Dec 2, 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/ or call 528-6322 to reserve a seat.

Green Home Loan

Oklahoma City homeowners wanting to save money on their electric and gas bill by making their home more energy efficient can apply for a green home loan offered through the City of Oklahoma City.

The loans are offered to Oklahoma City residents whose household income is \$100,000 or less. Residents can have up to 48 months to pay back their 3% fixed interest rate loan, which can be up to \$15,000.

Landlords cannot apply for rental properties.

Some of the energy efficient upgrades that can be made with a loan include:

- Installing energy-efficient windows or exterior doors
- Adding more insulation to attic and walls
- Replacing inefficient window air conditioning units with central heat and air
- Installing of a new heat pump
- Replacing a dark-colored roof with a cool roof that reflects the sun
- Purchasing energy efficient appliances
- Upgrading lighting efficiency
- Installing alternative energy

The City's Residential Energy Efficiency Loan Program is administered by the Community Action Agency.

Residents can apply for a loan by calling the Community Action Agency at (405) 232-0199.

GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS 2014 WINNERS!

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATIONS
Edgemere Park Preservation

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT
Bikelanes for Britton (*Briarcreek*)

BEST COMMUNITY NEIGHBOR
Terracon Consultants, Inc

GOOD NEIGHBOR OF THE YEAR
Neila Crank-Clements (*Gatewood UCD*)

NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR
Quail Creek

Social Host Law

Oklahoma's Social Host law puts a shared responsibility for underage drinking on the person providing the location for the gathering.

Adults and minors can be cited and fines to \$500 or more, under the Social Host law. This means it's up to you to make sure under 21 people don't drink alcohol in your home or on your property. The law is clear: If people under the age of 21 are drinking alcohol at a gathering, and you're providing the location for that gathering, you're responsible, regardless you rent, own, or simply provide the location.

Find out more at: **Eagle Ridge Institute, 601 NE 63rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105**
405-840-1359 www.eagleridgeinstitute.com and www.oklahomasocialhost.com

Working to create safe,
attractive and healthy neighborhoods
throughout Central Oklahoma
www.nacok.org



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The Devon Ice Rink opens Nov. 15, 2014 – Feb. 2, 2015

It wouldn't be winter without the Devon Ice Rink at the Gardens! Skating season officially starts November 14, 2014. Bundle up, grab your friends and family and enjoy a great day of fresh air and skating in the prettiest spot in town!

Join us for Rock N Skate Nights from 6-9pm each Friday throughout skating season. We'll provide the DJ and tunes, you bring your best moves! Gardens Members skate for \$7. Nonmember pricing is \$12 including skates or \$8 with your own skates. Group Rate (10 or more guests) is \$8 includes skates. Advanced reservation required for groups.

Call 405.708.6499 to make a reservation.
Mon.– Thurs.3-9pm; Fri. 3—11pm; Sat. 11am – 11pm;
Sun. 11am – 7pm

Oklahoma City to give away storm shelters to qualified applicants

The City of Oklahoma City is giving away an estimated 235 storm shelters to Oklahoma City homeowners who qualify based on their household income.

To qualify, a single person can earn up to \$34,400, a family of two can earn up to \$39,300; a family of three can earn up to \$44,200, a family of four can earn up to \$49,100, a family of five can earn up to \$53,050 and a family of six can earn up to \$57,000.

The storm shelters are available on a first come, first served basis to Oklahoma City residents who were affected in some way by the May 19-20 or 31, 2013 storms. Damage as insignificant as downed branches qualifies.

Residents can log on to www.okc.gov or call 297-2846 to pre-qualify for a storm shelter. The applicant must own and live in the home to qualify. Rental property is not eligible for a shelter.

Funding for the shelters is provided through U.S. Department of Housing Development (HUD).

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: **Saturday, January 24th at 10am.** To enroll or for more information, contact MSgt. Robert Skalla at robert.skalla@okc.gov. To learn how to start a patrol in your neighborhood, contact **Neighborhood Alliance at 528-6322.**



A word from one of our PCR Officers: MSgt. Michael Loruse, Southwest Division PCR

Holiday Shopping Safety

This year there are only 25 shopping days between Black Friday and Christmas as compared to 2012 when there were 31 days. This means everyone will be in a hurry to get their shopping done. In that hurry, you can be distracted from what's going on around you, which can leave you a victim of crime. Keep in mind the bad guys only have 25 shopping days to commit their holiday crimes.

Head on a swivel

When shopping, from the time you park the car until you return, you want to look around your surroundings. Predators will stalk for victims that don't notice them.

Do not be afraid to briefly make eye contact with the suspicious person because this sends a message they have been discovered and they will be discouraged. This simple act can make a predator relocate to another shopping area where he/she/they haven't been noticed.

Walk with confidence

Walk everywhere with good posture, head up, scanning occasionally side to side. Do not walk while talking on your cell

phone. This sends a signal to the bad guy you're not paying attention. If while shopping you need to make or receive a phone call, stop and put your back to the wall and glance around while talking. Send a message you are alert. Bad guys will avoid these people.

Report anything suspicious

If you notice a suspicious person or vehicle, call 911 and articulate why the person and/or car are suspicious. If you are at a shopping area that has security call them, on-site security will most likely respond more quickly. One year I was working off duty security at a mall and was notified of a suspicious guy watching young children. Sure enough, I found the guy and he was watching two sisters about 4 and 6 years old. Their parents were nearby talking to friends and oblivious that this man was bird dogging their children. The police want your 911 call before "it" turns into a crime or emergency.

Leave only what you want stolen in your car

I'm sorry to say there will be auto burglaries at various shopping locations this holiday shopping season, because people will leave some of the coolest stuff in their cars. If you don't want this to be you then **DON'T LEAVE PROPERTY IN YOUR CAR** in the parking lot.

**One last thought about holiday safety this year:
Don't get in a fight over a parking place.**