



# Eppilog

JULY 2007

The Official Newsletter of Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc.

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## Happenings in the 'Hood

by Jann Hook

**Strategic Planning** - The EPPI Trustees will be working with Georgie Rasco, Neighborhood Alliance Executive Director, to lead a series of strategic planning sessions for the neighborhood. The first sessions, to be held in August and early September, will be open to all residents and property owners and is an opportunity to give your great ideas and thoughts on how Edgemere Park can be an even better neighborhood. This planning effort will provide guidance to EPPI trustees and officers for many years on ways to better serve the neighborhood. Details and meeting schedules will be in the August newsletter.

**National Night Out** - Tuesday, August 7 is the date of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out. Sponsored locally by Neighborhood Alliance, this event is designed to heighten awareness of crime prevention and strengthen neighborhood spirit. All residents are encouraged to keep their outdoor lights on, sit on the front porch, come out in the street and hang out with your neighbors, or take a stroll around the park. Let's send a message that Edgemere Park is fighting back against crime.

**Animal Control** - A neighbor reported that her cat had to be put down after being poisoned. The poison may have been intended for wandering possums or raccoons. The City of Oklahoma City's Animal Welfare Division does not trap these animals and recommends that homeowners purchase a live animal trap if they are having recurring problems. The trapped animals should be taken to a lake or other remote area and released. They must be taken at least five miles from where they were captured or they will find their way back. Animal Welfare also warned that poisoning is considered animal cruelty and violators can be arrested and/or cited. Among other places, traps are available at Horn Seed for \$40 and up and Tractor Supply Company for \$24.50. Trapping may be a little more trouble and expense, but is safer for our pets and children and certainly less troublesome and expensive than jail time or a citation!

**I-235 Project Update** - The public meeting held June 21 at the First Christian Church provided current plans and construction schedule. Information presented is available on ODOT's web site at [www.odot.org](http://www.odot.org) under "Public Meetings". 36<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed from just east of the Edgemere entrance to Santa Fe. Traffic will be routed to 23<sup>rd</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Streets. The street closure is scheduled on August 16<sup>th</sup> and should reopen within 90 days.

A 12 foot high sound wall will be constructed north of 36<sup>th</sup> Street to mitigate noise in Edgemere Heights. A 10 foot high visual barrier wall will be placed south of the earth berm east of Edgemere Park (approximately 28<sup>th</sup> Street) and continue to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. Both walls will have a design of running buffalo and scissortail flycatchers on the highway side. Lighting along 36<sup>th</sup> Street will be lower in height to be more sensitive to those homes. No trees or other landscaping are included in the project plans.

## **Defining Historic Places in America**

by Rita Benischek

Edgemere Park is honored to be included as part of the historic designation on the National Register for Historic Places. What is the “Register” and why is it significant.

The National Register of Historic Places (The “Register”) is the official Federal List of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture. These elements contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of our Nation. Museums may also be included to help identify people, property, a community or events within a community.

### **Who administers and oversees these decisions?**

The Register operates as a segment of the National Park Service (NPS) who, in turn, is a division of the Department of the Interior. Each state in the U.S. has a State Historic Preservation Office that inventories and recommends what properties in American history to officially recognize. An area designated for preservation is often called an historic “overlay.” The criterion for recognition is specific and detailed. The Historic Preservation Office in Oklahoma is located in the Oklahoma History Center located adjacent to the Oklahoma Capitol Building.

### **When were the origins of these listings decided and what are their importance?**

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 (Public Law 74-292) established the National Historic Landmarks Survey. By the 1960s, with the destruction of historic structures under the umbrella of “urban renewal,” many concerned citizens across the U.S. and employees of the National Park Service helped to rejuvenate interest in the Historic Sites Act passed in 1935.

In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act (Public Law 89-665) authorized The National Register of Historic Places, expanding federal recognition to historic properties of local and state significance in addition to parks and traditionally federal properties.

Oklahoma has many properties so designated which help to define the state as a composition of Indian and Oklahoma Territories. Nearly every county in Oklahoma has at least one structure on the registry. Properties may be nominated to the register in one of five categories: a district or definable area, the site of a significant event, a building, a structure of many parts such as an important engineering feat, or an object that bears a special meaning of cultural, historic, ethnic or scientific meaning.

### **What about private preservation efforts?**

Some preservation efforts in the U.S. have taken the path of private designation and curation. One private program, nationwide in scope, is the National Trust for Historic Preservation (termed the “Trust”). In addition to the federal programs, private programs also focus on the protection of landscapes, unique features, parks and other elements. A precursor to the Trust organization was formed after WWII to link the preservation efforts of the NPS and the federal government with the many private or local preservation organizations in the U.S.

The Trust offers education programs, assists with resources and also helps to identify national preservation issues. At times the Trust assumes ownership over properties that are problematic for the federal government to own. The Trust office for Oklahoma is located in Fort Worth. Their staff has assisted Oklahomans with help to strengthen community interest in issues of preservation on many occasions.

### **Why does Edgemere Park bear NPS designation?**

Neighborhoods across America are integral to the physical and cultural history of our country. Edgemere is defined by specific geographic boundaries and within those boundaries are elements that are unique to the history of Oklahoma City and the state. In our case, the designation includes structures and in others, important figures resided who were integral to the development and strength of our city. The layout of the park and the surrounding streets are included in the considerations. But best of all, we can study the past to assist with our vision of a rewarding future of our neighborhood.

## Security Update By Mark Clopton

To keep you informed, a few excerpts from the daily reports of our Wackenhut security officer, Mr. Robert Lee, are listed below. These incidents span the past three months.

Also - please remember to:

- Activate home alarm system on weekend afternoons
- Keep outdoor lights on after dark
- Close and lock your garage door when not in use
- Not store anything of value in your cars
- Wear reflective clothing when walking after dark
- Call 911 to report any suspicious behavior

**7:40 pm** - Young male going door to door selling magazine subscriptions. I asked him to leave the area.

**3:34 am** - 4 gunshots were heard from the area around 36<sup>th</sup> & Robinson, so I searched the area but didn't find anything. I was advised later that someone had been shot in the 100 block of NE 36<sup>th</sup>.

**3:00 pm** - I approached a man who had been lingering in the street and he was distraught and told me that he was suicidal. I called the police and waited with him until he could be taken to the crisis center.

**10:00 pm** - 200 blk of 32<sup>nd</sup> St. - Detached garage burglarized and hand tools stolen.

**12:45 am** - Two young males were walking east on the 400 blk of 33<sup>rd</sup> St. When I approached them they told me they were going to the convenience store at 30<sup>th</sup> and Walker Ave. I advised them that they were walking the wrong way and then followed them until they left the area.

**2:20 am** - Man found asleep in the driver's seat of his vehicle on the 200 blk of 32<sup>nd</sup> St. I called city police and they took the man to Detox.

**3:00 am** - Two young males in the park near 35<sup>th</sup> St. I advised them that the park closed at 11:00 pm and asked them to leave the area.

**2:30 am** - Red Chevrolet Silverado slowly cruising the area. I approached him and he asked me for directions, but then started driving away from where I guided him and again was slowly cruising the area. I started following him and he stopped his vehicle and angrily approached my truck on foot. I stayed in my truck and called the police, who arrived in 2 minutes and put the man in the back of their patrol car.

**3:00 am** - Two women from an apartment building were in a fist fight at 34<sup>th</sup> & Robinson. Police were called but they could not find the woman who instigated the conflict.

**3:00 pm, Sunday** - Home on Harvey Pkwy. burglarized. The homeowner's security system sounded and police were called to the scene, but the robbers were not found. It was later presumed that a white, two-door Mercury Cougar had been the burglar's vehicle.



### Past Experience Required...

Selling historic homes requires experience. They are special and should be treated as such.

Since 2000, we have a combined number of:

**19 Edgemere Park Sales**  
**49 Historic Home Sales**

Both past residents of Edgemere Park, we know and love it!  
Congratulations Edgemere - 80 Great Years!

**Alan and Heather Davis**  
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Source: OKC MLS 1/1/2000-5/23/2007. All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

## EDGEMERE PARK TRUSTEES MEETING NOTES

Monday, June 11 2007 7:00PM

IRON STARR URBAN BBQ

- I. Welcome and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Jann Hook. Present: Mark Clopton, Julie Jungman, Cindy Garrett, Lindsey Pever, Jenifer Cawley, Randy Stalcup, Michael Rittenberry, Dennis Nauman, Randy Johnson, Marianne Kokojan & Edd Cochran, Chris Peters, Richard Harrison, Allen Brown, Eric Groves, Mary Surbeck & Rita Benischek.
- II. The Minutes from May 14, 2007 were approved. Beginning with this meeting, the minutes will be mailed electronically to trustees for electronic approval.
- III. Treasurer's Report. J. Jungman presented the financials as of May 31, 2007. Total assets balanced at \$24,458.92. The income for May 2007 was \$7,433.97. The NET income from the Edgemere Park 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was \$2,756.50. From this income, 10% will be appropriated for maintenance for the Harvey Parkway median and 90% allocated for capital improvements. The action was seconded and passed.
- IV. President's Report. J. Hook.
  - A. Membership. Cindy Garrett has assumed this position. She distributed a current list of neighbors who have paid their dues. She and R. Harrison are working on a more complete email database for Edgemere Park residents.
  - B. J. Hook reported the current news from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's (ODOT) restructuring of the I-235 and 36<sup>th</sup> St interchange.
- V. Strategic Plan. J. Hook reported on options for a facilitator for an updated plan. M. Clopton and M. Surbeck will assist J. Hook in selecting a facilitator. Input from Edgemere Park residents is critical to delineate the hopes and concerns of the entire neighborhood.
- VI. Status of the billboard structure (half-built pole/commercial sign) at Robinson and 23<sup>rd</sup> St behind the Blue Note. Dennis Box, attorney for Vital Signs, offered a settlement package of \$175,000 to Leslie Batchelor and E. Groves that the latter rejected for the neighborhoods involved in the litigation. At the present time, our partners in this litigation have a "stay" in District Court that prevents completion of the billboard. E. Groves will keep us apprised.

### **Confirmed Word of God Church International**

Family would like to invite everyone out to our services:

- Sunday Men and Women Ministry at 9:00am/Worship Service at 10:30am.
- Wednesday Bible study at 7:00pm.
- Every Third Thursday is Singles Ministry at 7:00pm.
  - Every Second Saturday is Marriage Enrichment Class at 3:00pm.

The church phone number is 405-601-0675 and business hours are from 10:00am to 4:00pm Monday thru Friday. Our Senior Pastors are Patrick & Rose Poole. Child care is available on Sundays and Wednesdays services.

Trustees discussed possible implications of the proposed development on the land east of the First Christian Church and indicated that they would like to have more information.

#### VII. Committee Reports.

A. Communications. R. Harrison requests news items for the EdgemerePark.org website and for the *EPPILOG*. He is setting up a PayPal account for the residents to complete payment of association and Security dues online.

B. Historic Preservation. J. Hook stated that the Edgemere Park committee is meeting regularly on a Sunday evening prior to the meetings for the HP Commission, which are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month.

C. Park and Public Improvements. M. Surbeck indicated that watering of our new trees has not been required recently because of our heavy rainfall. J. Hook distributed the updated plans from the Parks and Recreation Department (OKC). The upgrade and new pavilion go for bid in late July 2007. The city will run conduits for electrical power and a meter will be

*(Continued on page 7)*

**EDGEMERE PARK PRESERVATION, INC.  
THANKS THE DONORS OF RAFFLE ITEMS FOR OUR  
80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

42nd Street Candy Co - Teresa Wall  
Tan Line  
Mac's Self Service Dog Wash - Barney Brown  
George & Denise Waters  
Sherwin-Williams - Ryan Chavez  
The Red Cup  
Central Park - April Hammond  
Horn Seed - David Shumake  
Kathy Morgan Skin Care  
Dr. Tiffany Warden - Banfield Pet Hospital  
Nicole Bondurant  
Stan Cole  
Dr Bill & Nicole Bondurant  
Denise Waters  
Spectrum Paint Company  
Four Paws Grooming & Boarding  
House of Clay - Judith  
Salon D'Bella - Kelley Spence  
Spirit House Yoga - Martha McQuaid  
AKA Gallery - Ashley Griffith  
Sauced  
Mike's Wood-N-Things  
Protection One - Ellick Cosby

Paseo Grill  
In! Like Quin  
Cherokee Plumbing - Colin Frayser  
Chalet Cleaning - Bill Donnelly  
PBW - Paul Wiesendanger  
Big Sky Bread Co. - Kelly Ridgway  
Mark Rhodes  
Merryweather Photography  
M.E. Designs - Marc Gray & Eddie Witte  
Ron Ferrell  
Jenifer Cawley Pet Sitting Services  
Outback Steakhouse  
Bruno's Home Furnishings  
Kristin Haworth  
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Route 66  
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**WENDY  
WILLIAMS**

## Contemplating Edgemere The July 2007 Yard Of The Month

This month's "Yard of the Month" award goes to Dagen and Michelle Boyd of 217 Edgemere Court. Dagen and Michelle are relatively new Edgemerites. They moved here from Norman about 14 months ago and they have been busy fixing-up their home and garden.

In the back, the homeowners inherited an overgrown and neglected Japanese meditation garden. Overgrowth in a meditation garden isn't very conducive to peace and contemplation, so the Boyds set about to remedy the situation. Dagen started by pulling up all of the bamboo by hand (not an easy job) and replacing it with grass. He trimmed back the hot pink crepe myrtles and transplanted the Japanese maple, Bradford pear and cherry blossom trees. Next, he moved the flagstone patio and built a smaller deck. Finally, they accented with boxwoods, pink begonias, nandinas, liriopse and firebush.



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Real estate transactions involve one of the biggest financial investments most people experience in their lifetime. Transactions today usually exceed \$100,000. If you had a \$100,000 legal question, would you deal with it without the help of an attorney? Considering the small upside cost and the large downside risk, it would be foolish to consider a deal in real estate without the professional assistance of a REALTOR®!

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This feast for the senses continues on the side of the home where there are hydrangeas blooming alongside peonies, monkey grass, and a Japanese maple.

Their hard work is evident in these beautiful and peaceful areas.

However, the Boyds spend most of their time in the front yard at the insistence of Rufus, their yellow lab. Rufus isn't a peaceful or contemplative sort, so he enjoys leading his people to the front where he can observe the neighborhood action. Surrounded by ornamental grasses, golden and maroon barberries, spirea, blue spruce, begonias and crepe myrtle, Rufus happily participates in the Edgemere scene.

(Continued from page 4)

installed. The neighborhood would be responsible for power utilization, however. A. Brown suggested making the roof pitch less steep for the pavilion. The playground will be located in a shaded area near its present location. Parks and Recreation Department will install edging for two 8x10 foot flower beds and Edgemere residents would supply the plantings. The trustees decided to request black wrought iron benches for consistency with the current benches in the park.

D. Public Relations. The trustees are open for suggestions for a new person to meet and greet new neighbors.

E. Security. M. Clopton reminds all neighbors to leave parked cars locked and to keep exterior lights on in the evenings after dark.

F. Social and Special Events.

Women on the Edge will meet June 18<sup>th</sup> at Dianna Robayo's.

July 4th Parade and Picnic. M. Clopton and M. Surbeck are finalizing the plans. The trustees voted not to have a structured event for National Night Out on August 7<sup>th</sup>, but to encourage participation by coming outdoors and visiting with neighbors.

VIII. New Business. M. Clopton stated that *The Mid-City Advocate*, requested a copy or spreadsheet of our neighborhood membership directory. At the present time, the request was denied.

IX. There being no meeting in July, the next trustees meeting will be held August 13, 2007 at 7:00 PM at Iron Starr. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Electronic submission,  
Rita Benischek

**EPPI thanks the following  
outgoing Trustees for their  
service to the neighborhood:**

Donna Cornelison  
Ani Dominguez  
Karla Meeker

**And we welcome the following  
new Trustees:**

Lindsey Pever (also serving as  
our Social Committee  
Chairperson)  
Michael Rittenberry  
Randy & Nancy Stalcup

**Trustees are needed for these  
blocks:**

NW 36th Street,  
Hudson,  
400 block 32nd Street

Contact Jann Hook if you are  
interested in serving on the  
EPPI Board.

**Your Edgemere Park Realtor**  
**JOHN Q. COLEMAN**

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Century 21  
GOLD CASTLE

MLS

# Edgemere Park Events

**Wednesday, July 4**

Fourth of July Parade & Picnic  
In The Park  
5:00 PM

**Tuesday, August 7**

National Night Out  
Outdoors & In The Park!  
Evening

**Sunday, July 8**

Historic Preservation Committee Meeting  
Chris Peters', 3116 Harvey Parkway  
7:00 PM

**Monday, August 13**

EPPI Board Meeting  
Iron Starr Urban Barbeque  
7:00 PM

**Monday, July 30**

Historic Preservation Committee Meeting  
The Harrisons', 3600 Harvey Parkway  
7:00 PM

**Sunday, October 7**

Octoberfest  
The Naumans' & John Doddy's Back Yards  
433 N. W. 34th St.  
5:00 PM

Non-Profit Org  
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P. O. Box 54655  
Oklahoma City, OK 73154-1655

EPPILOG  
is published monthly by  
Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc.

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([eppilog@edgemerepark.org](mailto:eppilog@edgemerepark.org))

Vol. 0707