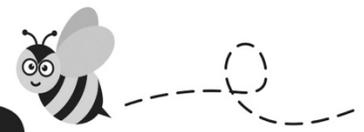


Belle Isle Buzz



Official Publication of the Belle Isle West Neighborhood Association

Volume 1, Issue 6

Shelli Wasson, Editor

September / October 2019

21st ANNUAL GARAGE SALE WEEKEND IS HISTORY

We had splendid weather and lots of traffic in the neighborhoods, despite our discovery that the city mowers (we are sure) absconded with two of the very expensive brand new metal framed signs we had placed on the NW Expressway at both Villa Ave. and Linn. We shuffled around some of the smaller signs and got those two major neighborhood entrances marked again as soon as we found out those signs were gone.

This year we had the best response ever!! There were 20 garage sales in Belle Isle West and 12 sales in Wileman's Belle Isle (WBI), neighborhood east of Villa Ave. Several participants I heard from said they received the best crowds of shoppers they've ever had.

Many, many thanks to the following people: Paula Schopflin and Louise Bass, Wileman's Belle Isle residents, took care of the distribution and pickup of signs and bundles of lists in their neighborhood. Heather Davis sent to me all those folks in WBI who lost their instructions about how to get their sales on the list.

Sue Fellers is the super hero of our neighborhood benefit sale. Not only did she donate half of her double garage full of boxes of treasures left over from her mom's living estate sale, she came over for several hours a day for a week and helped get everything set up and arranged at the sale. She then worked a very long shift on Friday at the sale and showed up with a BROKEN TOE on Saturday morning to help get everything started!

Traffic might not have been so brisk if not for Eunice Khoury, a new resident and member of our Board of Directors, who promoted our weekend of sales on her popular Saturday

See Garage Sale, page 3

Belle Isle Library Community Meeting

Tuesday, October 22 at 6:00 PM

Join the Metropolitan Library System, ADG Architecture + Interiors, and the City of Oklahoma City for an informational session about the future remodel of the iconic Belle Isle Library.

Belle Isle Library
5501 N. Villa Ave.



Submitted by Earline Parr

Officers and Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT – Greg Hall
55thpl@sbcglobal.net

PRESIDENT-ELECT – David Patterson
dgp@cox.net

SECRETARY – Aimee Dial Parrish
aimeedialparrish@coxinet.net

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Lynn Garman lynn@garman.com

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Aimee Dial Parrish Ann Warzyn

STREET DIRECTORS (08-19-2019) –
55th Place – Dave Campbell & Greg Hall

55th Terrace – Cathy Fitzhugh

56th Street & Linn – OPEN

57th Street – Shannon & Randy Wells

58th Place – Shelli & Craig Wasson,
Cathie Shaw

58th Street – Sue Fellers

59th Street – Aimee Parrish

60th Street – Christie Baker & Lynne Womble

61st Street – Scott Sproat

62nd Street (including Imperial Terrace) – OPEN
Miller – OPEN

Riviera Drive & 2300-2400 Blocks of NW 59th
Street – OPEN

Ross Ave. – Eunice Khoury

Villa Ave. (including Hunters Green) – OPEN

Please contact Dave Campbell,
Dcamp20000@aol.com for inquiries on
becoming a Street Director

Website: BIWOKC.COM

Like a Good Neighbor...

Since the big storm on Monday evening, August 26, and power outage that we endured, the west end of 60th Street has been dealing with a HUD-owned property including a large tree blocking the entire driveway. This is not the well-maintained landscaping that our neighborhood is used to. Our complaints to city officials were falling on deaf ears.

On Saturday, September 28th much to the surprise of the homeowners living near this property, a young man was giving an ax a major workout. Neighbors assumed that one of the city officials was finally stepping up and getting the problems taken care of. Just one question remained, where was the city vehicle? My husband and I went outside to investigate. We could not believe what we were hearing. There was no city vehicle in sight because the person wielding the power tool was one of our neighbors who was tired of looking at the unsightly mess and decided to take matters into his own hands. He worked most of the day chopping up the large branches and moving them to the curb. If one day's hard labor wasn't enough, he came back on Sunday and finished chopping all but one large branch.

We could all take a lesson from this Good Samaritan.
Thank you, Tyler Williams!

Submitted by Christie Baker,
Street Director for 60th St.

The Old Oak Tree on 55th Place

As many in the neighborhood already know, half of a 100-year-old oak tree in our backyard landed on and destroyed Dave's workshop. To add insult to injury, another large branch from another old oak destroyed our electric meter. We learned the hard way that if the electric meter is attached to the house, it's OGE's responsibility; however, if it's out in the yard, like ours is, it's the homeowner's responsibility.

Although we were without power for 5 VERY LONG days, we were better off than most. We have a small generator to power our fridge, a fan (but no AC) and a few lights—and, thank goodness, a coffeemaker.

Insurance will take care of the property damage, but we're probably going to lose the oak tree that was so badly damaged. I've spent endless hours in the summertime sitting on the patio shaded by this magnificent tree reading a book and drinking ice tea. It's going to be like losing a good friend when we have to say good-bye to that tree.

Sue Campbell, NW 55th Place

Mail dues to:

Belle Isle West NA
5030 N. May, Box 118
Oklahoma City, OK 73112



2019 Belle Isle West
Neighborhood Association Dues

Name _____

Address _____

Phones(s) _____

Email _____

Your canceled check is
your receipt.

◆ Annual dues are \$35.00 per household. ◆



(Make checks to BIW Neighborhood Assn.)

Thank

I have enclosed \$ _____

You!

Garage Sale, continued

morning show on KTOK radio. She announced her "Find the Tahoe" deal, telling listeners that the decorated minivan was parked somewhere in our neighborhood (the parking lot at 2828 NW 58th Street) on Saturday morning. The first person who spotted it and emailed her with its location won \$50.00. Thanks, Eunice!

Lawana Hamrick, Sue Fellers, Dave Campbell, Greg Hall, Cathy Shaw, Shannon Wells and Maribeth Govin donated many hours of their time and energy to hauling donations, sorting and arranging all the items for sale, setting out and/or picking up the signs, and/or working shifts during the benefit sale.

We wouldn't have had nearly as much great "merchandise" to sell if it weren't for those who donated things: Patti Kate, Sue Fellers, Estate of Linda Emerson, Aimee Parrish, Tom & Shirley Pollard, Mara Scott, Dave Campbell, Maribeth Govin, Shelli and Craig Wasson, Cathy Shaw, and LaVerne Beougher. I just know I've failed to mention someone and I apologize in advance.

Thanks again, everybody!

Lynn Garman, Garage Sale Chair

Water Line Work

Residents have been nervous and questioning us about what is going on with all the construction noise and digging on NW 57th Street near May. After a conversation with the engineer at the City of OKC in charge of this project, we're bringing you the facts.

Where there have been the most leaks and problems in the last few years are the streets involved in this Water Utility Rehabilitation Project. Translation: New Water Lines. Unless your lawn is the one being dug up and your driveway is being cut and jackhammered, you can appreciate the fact that this is really good news for our whole neighborhood.

There must be a trench about 2 feet wide by 8 feet deep so workers can place the new sections of water pipes. The trenching is done on the same side of the street as the old lines. Then the workers bore under the street to get access to every water meter on the opposite side, which necessitates a good-sized hole there. We'll have new pipes, meters, and fire hydrants in the following locations:

NW 56th Street — from Miller east to Villa Ave.

NW 57th Street & NW 58th Street — from May Ave. east to Villa Ave.

Work will probably take about two more months, depending on weather delays. When they are finished, water will be flushed through the lines and there will be pressure tests. Next they will chlorinate and take samples, then do the switchover to the new lines. They will turn the water off one block at a time. A crew member will come to your door to let you know that your water will be off that day, only for a few hours, then turned back on.

We've been favorably impressed with what careful work is being done on 57th Street. They've avoided large bushes and trees; the concrete patching and dirt replacement are very smooth and even.

Be patient. We'll live through this and not have any water outages for the next several years.

Lynn Garman
(Whose street is the next one to be done!)



MANY THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

Each year, some residents add a little (or a lot) to their dues check to help fund neighborhood projects. We'd like to send out a BIG thank you to the following generous neighbors who contributed a total of \$195 over and above their \$35.00 yearly dues:

Warren Johnson, Michael Harkey, Lu Garrison, Robyn Sellers, Brian & Kristine Sanders

This time of year brings to mind another item that you might be wondering. People ask us if our membership dues are tax deductible since Belle Isle West Neighborhood Association holds a 501(C)3 designation with the IRS.

Our non-profit organization is educational, social, intended to improve our neighborhood, and because you receive no goods or actual services from the association, your dues and any amount you choose to donate (up to \$250) are tax deductible.

Your tax expert can answer any further questions you have on this matter.

If anyone who donated an amount over your dues has not been recognized, please let us know and we will acknowledge you in the next newsletter. Thanks so much!

Storm Stories from Belle Isle West

Monday evening, August 26, 2019

Northwest Oklahoma City, especially the Belle Isle area, experienced winds of 80 mph, heavy rain, street flooding, with lightning strikes knocking out the electrical transformers.

The winds caused damage to roofs, trees, lawn furniture left outside, electric lines, and power poles. Cars were abandoned on Villa Ave. after their engines were flooded in the high water. The electric lines in our neighborhood were damaged by falling tree limbs and entire trees. The neighborhood was without power until Wednesday evening. Residents on 55th Place that had extensive damage to their actual electric meter were without power until Friday night.

Greg Hall, president of Belle Isle West Neighborhood Association, asked residents to send him their "Storm Stories". Below are excerpts from many messages. Thank you to everyone who took part. Below are excerpts from many messages. Thank you to everyone who took part.

- I live on the south side of NW 56, west of Linn. I lost power that Monday night in August at the first gust of wind from the storm. It had not even started raining before my power was out! I could not believe it! I watched as the hurricane-like winds came in, whipping rain around in circles in my front yard. During the night, I looked out and could see that a large portion of my neighbor's tree was in my yard. I wore my head lamp I use for running to light my way around the house and my phone for my alarm to wake me for work the next day. Our block is on a small electrical grid, so when the power goes out, we can anticipate it might be a while before we get it restored. When power had not returned by morning, I lifted my garage door to head to work. I needed my morning coffee!! I took my blow dryer to work to dry my hair, I took my watch, and my lights so I could charge them at work. It probably looked funny to see a regular charging station at my desk at work, with my watch, phone and lights!

Wednesday brought the same routine, with no power. I was actually enjoying the quiet of my home. No whirring of motors cooling the fridge, no TV, no AC. I went to bed early when it got dark in the house. Friends commented on social media that I was like a pioneer woman! Thankful we do not wear long dresses and petticoats for sure!

We really take the convenience of electricity for granted. I don't know how many times that week, I would hit a light switch expecting the light to come on. The quiet of the house was nice but the AC was certainly missed when it got hot!

Ellen Reeder, 56th St.
- The whole experience made me very thankful for the many good things I tend to take for granted each day.

59th Street Neighbor
- I found out my garage door would not unlock so I could get out manually. I have addressed this so it won't happen again.

Thanks
- It's great to see neighbors helping neighbors!!

Resident on 58th Place
- Generators: Faith Electric was the most affordable that I found.
- We put dry ice in our freezer to keep everything cold. You can purchase dry ice at Homeland at Britton Rd. and N. May Ave. Be sure to wear gloves when you handle dry ice so your hands don't get burned.

Craig Wasson, 58th Place

Household Hazardous Waste Facility

Everyone's home has some products (certain paints, stains and varnishes, cleaners, polishes, automotive products, pesticides and herbicides) that may contain hazardous components. The used or leftover contents of these products are known as "household hazardous waste."

You may contaminate our environment if you put these items in your household trash. Our drinking water may become polluted and the pollution can also effect streams, lakes, and wildlife.

The facility provides an environmentally safe place for residents to dispose of household hazardous waste and is free to Oklahoma City residents. **Please bring your City water bill as proof of residency.**

The division also hosts an annual springtime "special collection" for unwanted computers, tires, ammunition, and prescription drugs. Typically, this special collection event is held at the State Fairgrounds.

What We Take:

Propane, batteries, gasoline, lubricants, motor oil, brake fluid, degreasers, antifreeze, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, CFL and fluorescent light bulbs, swimming pool chemicals, furniture polish, household cleaners (including oven, drain and toilet bowl cleaners), mercury, paint and thinner

Do not pour chemicals into a single container. Leave them in their original packages.

Some household products, although harmless themselves, can be toxic when mixed.

What We Do Not Take:

- Radioactive waste
- Biomedical waste
- Commercial hazardous waste
- Refrigerant
- Compressed gas containers
- Tires
- Computer equipment

Household Hazardous Waste Facility

[1621 S Portland Ave.](#)
[Oklahoma City, OK 73108](#)

(405) 682-7038

9:30 AM to 6:00 PM Tuesday through Friday

8:30 AM to 11:30 AM Saturday

www.okc.gov/departments/public-works/household-hazardous-waste-facility Accessed 10/13/2019

For **Tips on Managing Household Chemicals**, please go to the website for pertinent information.



Household Hazardous Waste Facility
1621 S Portland Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73108



A Good Neighbor Approach to Grocery Shopping

Although we are not advertising for this store, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to tell everyone about the "good neighbor" approach that the grocery store is taking! Check this out!

A new grocery store just opened in Oklahoma City called the "**Public Wholesale and Food Market.**" They distribute expired food through a needs rewards system. For every dollar spent, a matching dollar amount in rewards is given. You can keep those rewards for future purchases, or give them away to someone in need. The purpose of this store is to limit food waste and feed those who are hungry. It is the first store of its kind since the passage of a new state law called the Josephine Meade Anti-Hunger Act.

Address: 3020 NW 16th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Hours: Monday - Sunday from 7 AM - 10 PM

From an Oklahoma City resident:

"Here's the way it works - you do your shopping (prices are good and they have interesting choices) and when you check out the cashier will initial your receipt. With that receipt you can go to Aisle One and buy green labeled groceries for the same dollar amount you just spent, for free! So if you spent \$60, you have \$60 credit for Aisle One items.

The items in that Aisle are 1-3 days past their sell-by date. Oklahoma passed a law saying items like that can be sold at discounted prices as long as they are labeled, but at Public Warehouse you can get them for nothing! Sell-by dates are often arbitrarily assigned and things like frozen foods, cheese, vacuum packed meats, etc, etc are fine even long after that posted date - how long do you keep hotdogs or chicken in your freezer without ever thinking about the sell-by date?

What's cool about this place is that you don't have to redeem your receipt right away, in fact you don't have to use it yourself at all, you can give it to someone else to use. I gave mine to a homeless guy who had a wife and a son, all he has to do is go in, show an employee the receipt and they'll take him to the right aisle and he can get \$50 worth of free food."

**Belle Isle West
Neighborhood Assoc.
5030 N. May, Box 118
Oklahoma City, OK 73112**

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oklahoma City, OK
Permit No. 1373

Calendar of Events in 2019

Tuesday, October 22 at 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Community Meeting about the Belle Isle Library Remodeling
Project, 5501 N. Villa Ave.

Sunday evening, December 15
❖ Judging of the Holiday Outdoor Decorating Contest

Tuesday, December 3 – Business Meeting
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Garman Productions, 2828 NW 58th St.
All residents of BIW are invited to attend. Contact Lynn
Garman for questions, lynn@garman.com

Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Annual Meeting
Renaissance Waterford Hotel, NW 63rd & Penn Ave.

Bi-Monthly Business Meetings 2020
Feb. 4; April 7; June 2; Aug. 4; Oct. 6; Dec. 1
Meetings are held at 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Garman Productions, 2828 NW 58th St.

**Holiday Outdoor
Decorating Contest**

Everyone loves to see homes decorated in colorful lights and decorations. This year, gift cards from Home Depot will be given to the winners!!

\$100 – 1st Place
\$75 – 2nd Place
\$50 – 3rd Place

Judging will be done on Sunday evening, December 15 by the BIW Decorating Committee.