SEPT/OCT
2023

eppilog

EDGEMERE PARK PRESERVATION
1926

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EDGEMERE PARK PRESERVATION
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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EDGEMERE PARK PRESERVATION, INC.

Letter from the President Lindsey Pever

October 17, 2023

Happy Fall! I hope you are all enjoying the break from the heat.

Thank you to those who have paid their dues! If you haven't, please consider doing so. Next year will be here before we know it, along with a renewed request for support of the neighborhood.

I hope you were able to enjoy Edgemere's Oktoberfest! It was fun to visit with neighbors, watch the kids play and decorate pumpkins, and relish the crisp fall weather with beer from Freeman's Liquor and homemade brats. Thank you so much to Christa Ball, Edgemere Social Chair, for organizing the wonderful event, to Dennis Nauman for the delicious brats, and to all those who helped plan and execute!

Along with the colors of the leaves, some other things are changing around the neighborhood. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have a new website and with it some of our business can be conducted online. This includes dues payments, security payments, and soon, this newsletter, The Eppilog. We hope you find these changes helpful and convenient. We expect that this will be our last printed newsletter, and so I want to sincerely thank Wendy Mills and Petra Cox for their many, many years of devotion to collecting and writing articles, securing advertisers, taking photographs, editing, formatting, etc. to ensure we have a newsletter. THANK YOU!

One more thing, our Councilperson James Cooper would like to invite our neighborhood to a Ward 2 Meet Up, Nov 1st 5:30-7:45pm at Tower Theater to discuss Homelessness. Attendees can expect a panel discussion and one-on-one time with service providers and City staff to increase understanding of the issues surrounding homelessness, the efforts to address it and to feel more empowered to help.

I hope you have a fun and rejuvenating fall and I'll see you around the park!

— Lindsey

President, Edgemere Park Preservation Inc.








July 2023 Yard of the Month – 220 NW Eubanks, Stacie and Duane Blass

Stacie Blass's lovely and festive yard took us into summer and the celebration of July 4th!

Their lovely buffed brick home was built in 1929. Many of the plantings were established, but Stacie has added her own touch to the flower beds. Having a mother that worked at TLC in the past, colorful flowers were a part of Stacie's life.

Colorful fuchsia and orange sunpatiens were planted to bring out a pop of color to the buffed brick home along with junipers that were added on each side of the steps leading up to the porch. A large bald cypress welcomes you as you come into the yard along with soft green fescue.



Among the plantings are colorful lantana, white coneflowers, yarrow, salvia, abelia, hibiscus, dianthus, purslane, aster, dianthus, bee blossom and milkweed for the butterflies. A beautiful butterfly bush in full bloom, draws in the butterflies as well. Filling in the flower beds, boxwood, Japanese barberry and nandinas were added to add texture. A beautiful yard indeed and one that will be filled with bloom from spring until fall!

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WILLIAM RICHARD HOOD

May 27, 1932 to September 19, 2023
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

"My friend died tonight and I'm so sad. Hi. You're extraordinary. Thank you for being in my life."

I first met Mr. Hood when I was doing the chalk drawings. They were meant to be temporary, but they weren't disappearing, which vexed me to no end. Would I get a ticket? Exiled from the neighborhood? Ridiculed for my crappy draftsmanship?

Over many sleepless nights, I would take buckets full of various solutions and scrub brushes to the park, on my knees in the dark trying to make them disappear. But nothing worked.

Come to find out, this old guy, who always walked in the park with his unruly scribble of a dog, knew this park when it was still a forest, considered it his own. He was a retired scientist, and enjoyed "doodling" with photography and watercolor, doing portraits of neighborhood dogs and gifting them to the owners out of the blue. He liked my drawings, and had taken to carrying spray cans of polyurethanes in his walker's basket. When he saw a drawing he considered worthy of preserving, he took it upon himself to do so.

Thus began meetings every morning for the past 3 years, moving from slow walks with a couple of retirees, to a literal congress of neighbors and their dogs. He had an opinion on most things, and was never shy about sharing it. He had been a bootlegger in his early years, and had lived with kidney failure for 7 years, despite all the prognoses. The man could recite Kipling and Shakespeare. He brooked no nonsense; suffered no fools… and yet, he maintained a stupid, outlandish joy from simple things – a dog making a face, a toddler dropping a toy, a bit of chalk on the sidewalk.

At the end, his body gave out on him. A band of us helped to care for him until his daughter arrived from the West Coast last week. We ensured he stayed at home, in as much comfort as we could offer him, and made damn certain he retained his dignity.

His daughter told me that he wanted me to have his art supplies.

I doubt there will be newspaper articles written about Mr. Hood; he was a genuine character who, at 90, had integrity, humor, intelligence, sharp wit, so much history, and pure love for life. However, he wasn't one of the people the press might consider "notable."

But here's the thing, and I know you know this, but it bears the reminder: we were born to connect with others - born to love. And our lives, no matter how small they might appear on the outside, impact people in ways that we can never know. So thanks, you. Even if we haven't connected in a while, you matter to me.

"My friend mattered to me a whole lot, and it means the world to know that you might be sending along a kind thought to help those flights of angels sing him to his rest.

Love." – Nicole Poole @wordsmiff405





Dick Hood and his dog were a familiar sight in Edgemere Park over the years. Dick passed away in September. Scruffy needs a new home and is available for adoption. For information please contact longtime friend of Dick and Scruffy's, Nicole Bondurant at 405-623-1888 or Mike Hood at 405-446-7439.

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September 2023 Yard of the Month – 221 NW 32nd Street, Mollie and Giovanni Lovera

Ahh, September is finally here and fall is upon us.

Mollie and Giovanni's beautiful yard debut's our new Yard Of The Month sign. We had it remade and it's an exact replica of the original sign that made its way out of the neighborhood at the end of May.

The Lovera's home, built in 1926, is on a hill, which creates a great framework to feature our last Yard Of The Month for the year. Purchased in 2019, two London Planes (Sycamores) introduce you to the yard. The trees were part of a communal planting project on 32nd street and still remain with their full canopies and shade. The Lovera's have added a Deodar cedar, weeping Busby Falls redbud tree as well as a dwarf blue atlas cedar and Royal Raindrops crabapple. Manicured boxwood hedges border the front flower bed that is planted with fire red miniature zinna and sedum. Filling the side flower beds are native grasses whose soft plumes move with the cool fall winds that are upon us.



Take time to enjoy the park during this beautiful Fall weather! The park committee plans on having clean up park days so be on the lookout if interested. If you have any ideas about improving the park or concerns regarding the park, you can email them to jessicasjohnson@icloud.com.



EDGEMERE PARK SECURITY

We need YOU to subscribe to help make our neighborhood and park safer. Your neighborhood dues are NOT your security dues. THEY ARE SEPARATE.

WE PROVIDE:
• 4 random patrols daily by Elite Protection with a licensed security guard, to be increased as funds permit. Look for the big blue Elite pickup with siren on top.

• Patrols drive down all neighborhood streets, and around the park and neighborhood perimeter

• Security sign for your yard - members only

• Personal home or yard checks, extra fee - members only

• $350 annually, $180 Semi-annual, $90 Quarterly, $30 monthly (only through website) Check or VENMO

Did you know Edgemere Park has provided security services since the 1980s? Did you know this service lapsed last year, due to security price increases? Did you know we reformed a Security committee, and resumed security patrols? Why is this important?

Our neighborhood surrounds a public park which, while our crown jewel, can and is used by criminals to case homes to burglarize, unhoused people to park shopping carts, etc.. Right now, our neighborhood homes are targeted for vandalism and theft. This year we had cars parked outside gone through at night, a lightpost was knocked out at a home on the park, bricks were thrown through windows at a home on Edgemere Court, windows were smashed at a home on the boulevard, a car was stolen on the boulevard, a large burglary took place on Hudson, and the Yard of the Month Sign was stolen from a 32nd St. yard.

We need security patrols to provide a DETERRENT to crime and criminal intent and keep our neighborhood a desirable place to live and play.

THANK YOU to ALL who have subscribed, including TRINITY SCHOOL and SOCCER SHOTS.

EDGEMERE PARK SECURITY ENROLLMENT
Please complete the information below and mail to: Edgemere Park Security Corporation, P.O. Box 54655, OKC, OK 73134-1655. VENMO @epscokc
QUESTIONS: email epscokc@gmail.com

Name and Email _____

Address _____

Fall ahead with preparedness

As fall and winter are knocking at our doors, a few suggestions and tips.

It's time to begin thinking about bulb planting for your spring flower beds. Many greenhouses are offering excellent selections of tulips, crocus, hyacinth and other bulbs. It is also time to reseed fescue lawns and for those with weeds, time for weed and feed applications. Remember that grass seed needs 2 weeks to germinate so a light daily watering is necessary. Grass seed germinates better without being covered with falling leaves on top, so be aware of this.

For those that have dead limbs in your trees, it's time to get them removed before snowy days which will weigh them down. If they snap and fall, they could easily take living bark with them, thus providing more opportunity for bugs and tree disease to move in. Removing the dead limbs will provide more energy to the living portion of the tree.

It is also time to take out rogue trees that might have been planted by a neighbors falling pecans or a squirrel. Rogue trees can and will grow into the electrical lines. They can be cut out before they reach this point. A month ago, when the high winds came through, several Edgemere blocks were without power because of unkempt trees and rogue trees rubbing the secondary power lines, which caught fire, taking the lines down into backyards. If the power lines come down over a gas meter, the spark can follow underground and catch your home on fire. Please pay attention to what you have growing near the electrical lines and if limbs are rubbing on the secondaries (the 3 smaller lines that are close together), call OG&E and ask for assistance. If your trees are small and not yet into the lines, OG&E will not come out. Many times, the homeowner can take care of regular maintenance on their own. Days and hours without power because of neglected trees and a street lined with fire trucks because of downed red hot power lines are not what any of us want to experience again. All of which could have been prevented with the residents maintaining their trees.

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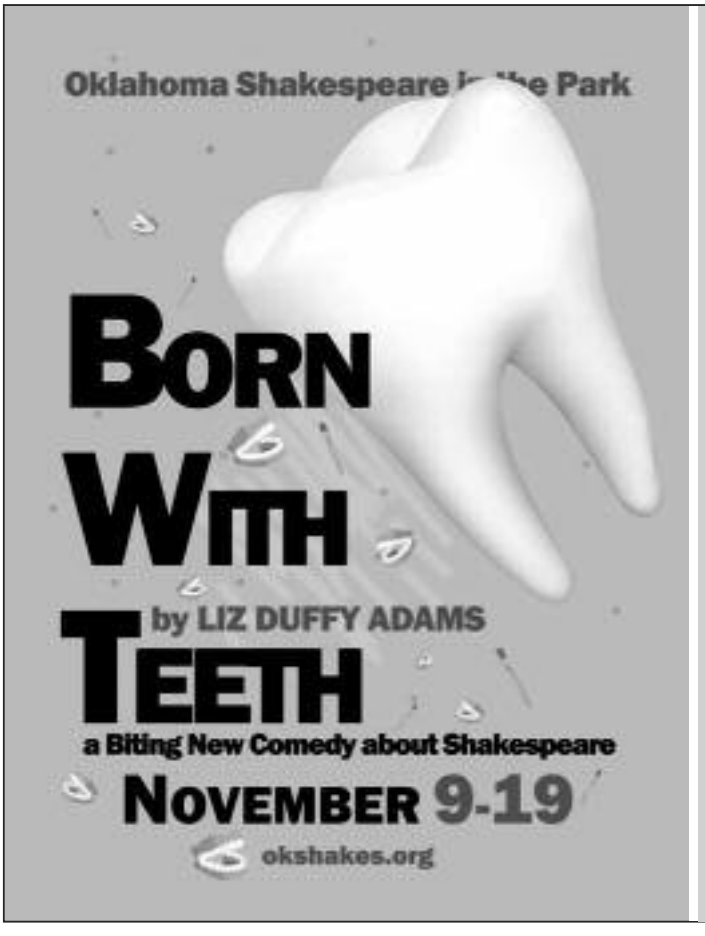



Trinity School
at Edgemere



The school year is getting in the groove at Trinity! We started with a Back-to-School night, where students met their teachers, picked up their schedules, and caught up with friends they hadn't seen. It was so fun seeing our Tigers back on campus for the first day of classes that began in August! It's going to be a great year!



We are thrilled to announce the launch of our first-ever girls' volleyball team this year! The team has played their first match, and despite losing, they put up a great fight and had a blast playing together and learning new skills.



You might have seen that Trinity had a special visitor shortly after classes began: Rumble the Bison from the OKC Thunder! Rumble taught our students about healthy, active lifestyles and how to use physical and mental energy for success on the court and in the classroom. It was such an exciting day for all of us!



This year promises to be packed with excitement! We hosted a special breakfast event on September 8th for students and their grandparents. And September 15th was a special event of an all-school movie night on our lawn, where families enjoyed a delicious meal while watching a fun flick. What a great time it was!

Trinity was excited to host a special screening of the documentary "The Right to Read" towards the end of September at All Souls Episcopal Church. Produced by LeVar Burton, best known for his work on the PBS children's television show "Reading Rainbow," the film challenges how we think about reading instruction and a must-see for anyone who cares about teaching kids to read. We plan on having more great opportunities in the future.



Do you love kids? Are you looking to give back to your community while earning extra money? Trinity is always looking for substitute teachers community volunteers. If you're interested, don't hesitate to contact the school office at careers@trinityschoolokc.org or call our office at 5600. We would love to talk to you!

EDGEMERE PARK 1926 PRESERVATION

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Submit materials to the Editor at pcox220@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Dec 03: Edgemere Christmas Party, time and location to be announced

