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JUNE 2021

BEAUTIFICATION IN PROGRESS

The Beautification Committee has been busy preparing spring landscape enhancements throughout the neighborhood. In April, boxwoods that didn't make it through February's brutal cold spell were replaced in multiple locations. In May, annual flowers and vines were planted in urns and bowls throughout the neighborhood that will provide visual interest through the fall.

Residents will soon see landscaping enhancements at Meyer Boulevard & Oak Street. A colorful mix of perennials will be planted with the assistance of the HOA's landscape contractor. The Committee has selected perennials that provide long and colorful bloom periods and will create an attractive foreground for the boxwoods and landscape walls and columns. Best of all, the perennials are natives which will, for the most part, maintain themselves once established. Although Meyer Boulevard is the primary focus in this year's landscaping enhancements, additional landscaping will be added at 65th Terrace & Oak (Artie the Lion) and Rockhill & Holmes to replace landscaping impacted by past disturbances from infrastructure repairs and vehicle crashes. Landscaping enhancements are also being made where there are

gaps in existing landscaping, including at Meyer Blvd. & Cherry St. and 64th Terrace and Holmes.

Have you seen the growth of the native plants that were planted last spring along Rockhill at both Oak Street and Oak Terrace? All of the natives planted last year were plugs (just a bit larger than seedlings), which allowed the Committee to purchase a large number of plantings at a lower price. Although they may not have looked impressive when first planted, the growth this spring has been significant! The Wild Sweet William (native woodland phlox) and Golden Alexander (large stalks of yellow flowers) in particular have been a success for the spring

season. Other natives will bloom in the summer and fall for splashes of color throughout the growing season. As not all plugs survived the first year, a few additional plants will be added where needed.

The Committee is always in need of extra hands to help care for plantings! If you are interested in adopting a monument area near your home, please contact Stuart Wieland (swieland@oakmeyergardens.org) or Matt Wright (mdwright86@gmail.com) to discuss details. Volunteer are needed to water in order to keep plantings healthy through the summer months!





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DEAR OMG NEIGHBORS,

When signing up for the OMG Facebook site, we ask a series of questions to our members, one being "What is your favorite thing about Oak Meyer Gardens?" We get a variety of answers. Some say the trees, others say the charming houses, but more often than not, members answer – the friendly neighbors.

I have to say that I agree wholeheartedly. This can be a neighborhood that often feels more like a community of friends. And some of the most interesting and talented people live here. On my block alone there are stay-at-home moms, attorneys, contractors, pharmacists, psychologists, teachers, engineers, nurses, police officers, and retirees of all backgrounds. Throughout the neighborhood you will also find artists, musicians, marketers, city designers, gardeners and people of many creative outlets. During the height of the pandemic, last summer, we were gifted with the performance of several of our neighborhood

musicians. And it is thanks to member volunteers who are writers, editors, and website and ad designers that we are able to send this newsletter to you. We are truly blessed!

Now that the pandemic is slowing down, it feels like people are digging out from under their rocks and coming out of their hibernation. I do hope you are able to take advantage of this nice spring weather to get out and visit with your neighbors. It is so nice to actually meet face to face again instead of digitally. Our neighborhoods are safer and more like a community when we get to know one another and look out for each other.

Oak Meyer Gardens will also be trying safely to shake off the pandemic. We continue to encourage neighbors to organize block parties. These are great to catch up on news and introduce one another to new neighbors and families. It is up to each block to decide what they are comfortable doing, but since common food dishes and the sharing of serving utensils are still discouraged – at least at the time of this writing, we encourage you to be creative in your gatherings.

Our 600 block of East 64th Terrace had several Saturday morning coffees with sweet rolls last year. It was like an open house on a front lawn with neighbors coming and going as their schedules allowed. It was lovely. Another option might be a wine and appetizer evening. The HOA usually provides \$100 towards meat for each block party, but because of the need to be adaptable this year, the Board has agreed to donate up to \$100 for each type of block gathering.

After having to cancel the OMG summer picnic last year, the Board has chosen to start back up with a safe, family-oriented, summer event. Sorry – no bouncy houses this time. The gathering will be Sunday, June 27th, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. This afternoon fiesta will feature the Estrella Azul taco truck. Beverages and dessert will be provided. There will be music, and we promise piñata events for the different children's age groups. Please look for more information in this newsletter, on our website and on the OMG Facebook page.

Finally, our network of Block Captains is a work in progress. Block Captains volunteer to request contact information from neighbors on their blocks in order to keep all informed about HOA services and events. They also serve as a communication point for neighborhood concerns. You will find more about this in an article written by Carol Cowles, our north Locust Street Block Captain.

Valerie Schroer
Valerie Schroer, President

WELCOME

to everyone who chose to call Oak Meyer Gardens home in 2021!

- Kristina Brooks
- Alex Elmore & Sara Emami
- Amy & Shane Hefty
- Sarah L. Holm & Payton H. Logan
- James Kelly
- Ivan Hanson Kepes
- Zachary & Delaney Lewis
- Jan & John Long
- Casey McDowell & Jarrett Gardner
- Tyler & Kelsey Moser
- Erin Nauman & Asher Linden
- Lorena & Maribel Perez
- Clayton & Sarah Snodgrass
- Laura & William Snow
- Suzanne Rettey & Jonathan Thaxton
- Franklin Wagner
- Albert Wilkinson & Emma Carson
- Travis & Ruthie Wilson

SHARING OMG GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to **Colleen Freeman** and her fiancé Reilley on their engagement! They will be married at St. Peter's Catholic Church in OMG on April 30, 2022. Reilley begins medical school in July 2021.

We also have exciting news regarding Colleen's sister, **Amelia Freeman**. Amelia has moved to Munich to become proficient in German and then study computer science at a German university. She had been waiting to go to Germany since last March and was finally admitted to the country this April.

Have any good news to share for our next newsletter?
Please send it to boa@oakmeyergardens.org

JOYS OF A BLOCK CAPTAIN

My husband Jim Fletcher and I moved to Locust Street in 2015. We carefully calculated that there were 41 restaurants and bars within walking distance so that when our six adult children took away our car keys, we could still have a great time! We are still driving and enjoying walking and hiking. I helped re-energize OMG's Block Captain Program in 2019. I have continued as Locust Street's Block Captain.

I admit that I love welcoming new neighbors, connecting them with others who have been here longer, and occasionally offering suggestions or advice. Our block is wonderfully diverse yet cohesive and it is my pleasure to forward information from the OMG Board about upcoming events and opportunities. I field questions, give answers that I know and get responses from OMG leaders for those I do not know. Our block's children have caring adults to compliment their growth and accomplishments; our block's dogs and cats are quickly found if they escape or wander.

My lawn is becoming a purposeful naturescape and several of my neighbors have lawns that would vie for prizes in the suburbs. We coexist with pride and pleasure! If your block does not have a Block Captain, please consider identifying yourself to Dawn Kilby Swenson dawn.m.swenson@gmail.com to learn more. I'll bet that you will enjoy the enhanced community that you will build!

– By Carol Cowles



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OMG GRADUATES

**Congratulations to our 2021 Oak Meyer Gardens Graduates!
We wish you much success and happiness!**



Congratulations to **Cara Baker**, a 2021 graduate of Bishop Miege high school. She graduated with honors and a member of the National Honor Society. She has played soccer since she was in kindergarten and is on the varsity team at Miege. In her spare time, she works at Teamwork Sports and Kona Ice and loves to spend time with her friends. Cara will be a freshman at Northwest Missouri State in Maryville this fall.

Joey LaBella is a recent graduate from St. Thomas Aquinas High School. He plans to attend the University of Missouri in the fall.

Ella Miller is a recent graduate of University Academy and will be attending the University of New

England (Maine) studying Marine Sciences in the fall.

Mattie Mills is a graduate from Notre Dame de Sion High School. She will be attending Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa this fall with a double major in political science and environmental science.

Katherine Elizabeth O'Sullivan is a recent graduate of St. Teresa's Academy. She will be attending Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska in the fall on a pre-dental track.

Rosie Pasqualini graduated from Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Science degree in Cognitive Science and Philosophy.

Ruby Rios graduated from the University of Missouri – Kansas City with a B.S. in Computer Science. She is starting a position in July with VMware.



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THE BROOKSIDE ART ANNUAL

The 2021 Brookside Art Annual will be held from Friday, September 17th through Sunday, September 19th. The anticipation for the Brookside Art Annual continues to grow after fans and artists were put on pause in 2020. In 2021, the show won't be tented – a change from previous years – but will still host over 180 of the top artists from across the country. The featured artist will be Sharon Tesser from Louisville, Kentucky, who uses fabric and cloth to tell visual stories of the world around her. If you'd like to volunteer at this year's Brookside Art Annual, please email Donna Potts at brooksideartannualkc@gmail.com.

University Academy is a free Pre-K through 12th grade charter school. UA is currently accepting applications for grades Pre-K through 9th grade. We are now accepting applications for both in-person and virtual school for the 21-22 school year! To apply, please scan the QR code located at bottom right.

Interested in your child attending virtual school for the 21-22 school year? Apply today for the University Academy Virtual!

For more questions, please email bradyk@universityacademy.org or text 913-674-9851.

We look forward to connecting with you!



HOUSES ARE SELLING AND PRICES ARE RISING

Consider the normal days of residential real estate. There was an even balance between buyers and sellers. Sellers would list a property with an optimistic price. Buyers would make an offer for less. And, the game was on. Negotiations. Offers and counteroffers. Inclusions and exclusions. Appraisals and inspections.

In the end, the seller would get less than they hoped. The buyer would pay more than they planned. And, more or less, everybody walked away happy.

Somebody has changed the rules, at least for now. Whether it was the emergence of the Millennials into the buying class; the Covid pandemic or something else. But, those days of real estate relative sanity have flown out the window. People are doing abnormal things in the buying and selling of houses.

Consider “George” – a man in his early sixties who was as regular as a person can be.

He married his high school sweetheart. They raised three children. He has worked at the same company for more than 40 years – his entire adult working life.

Twenty-five years ago, they built a home near Red Bridge and planned to live happily ever afterward in it. They loved the house they built.

Then, “George” noticed his neighbor was selling his house for what seemed to be a huge margin over what he perceived as the market. In a casual conversation, he asked a realtor friend if his house would fetch that price.

“No, George,” he was told. I can get you about \$50,000 more.”

Now, they are moving a lifetime’s worth of accumulated personal property into a two-bedroom, two bath apartment. As “George” was a sophisticated collector of sports memorabilia, he is filling both sides of the garage and the spare bedroom with his stuff.

And, pocketing about an estimated \$100,000 premium over “last year’s value” (the house sold for over listing), “George” says he’ll wait for a normal market to return – then buy another house.



The world that “George” encountered is also affecting OMG. Sellers are in control. Houses are being snapped up, usually following a bidding war. Some prospective buyers have sent heartfelt “love letters” to desired sellers hoping to charm their way to a favorable decision.

The observed sequence in OMG is shown in real estate signs. Coming Soon is soon followed by For Sale. It seems like Sale Pending or Under Contract follow almost immediately. And, then the property is Sold.

The new home market is similarly affected, but for different reasons. Forest product prices have driven new home costs up significantly, easily by \$35,000 or more. And, builders are taking advantage of the shortage of properties and raising prices.

One real estate agent reports that he has had to counsel buyers to be prepared to make offers on five or more houses before actually making a deal. He puts it succinctly: “Don’t fall in love until you have a deal.”

Sellers, who are now in the driver’s seat, are able to make unusual demands for concessions. Inspections and appraisals are no longer absolutely mandatory. Closing times, normally up to six weeks, stretch out longer. After all, the seller now needs to find a new place to live. Many negotiate terms to stay in the home for a nominal rent – or even rent-free for months.

The question is how long will all this last?

If you are a potential seller, seeing that you might reap a bonanza by selling the house you have been planning to keep for years, you might look before you leap.

Because, once you have become a seller – with all of its current economic and strategic advantages, you will now be unhoused.

And your alternatives are to become a renter (probably in a smaller space) and/or now become a buyer – and prey to all the disadvantages inherent in that position.

And, to make things worse: you may have to move to a place that is quite a bit less desirable than OMG.

— By Jon Goodman

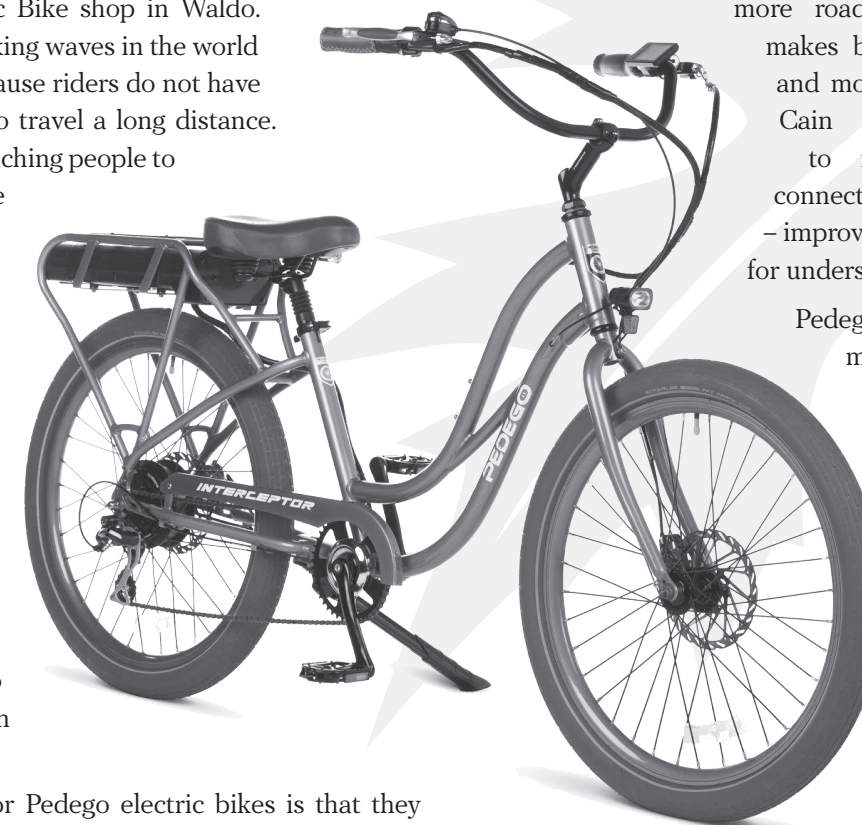
LOCAL ENTREPRENEUR: DAN CAIN & PEDEGO

What looks to be a simple bike shop is adding much more to the community than meets the eye. After 30 years of life in managed care contracting, Dan Cain fell in love with the electric assist bikes and decided to open Pedego Electric Bike shop in Waldo. Electric bikes are making waves in the world of transportation because riders do not have to be expert bikers to travel a long distance. At Pedego, they’re teaching people to ride with the throttle and pedal assists who haven’t ridden in years, and while they build muscle and gain balance, the ride can be adjusted to meet your needs. With five levels of assist, you can ride an electric bike with levels that are mostly bike power to mostly your human power.

Dan says his hope for Pedego electric bikes is that they help more people get more active and put away the car for short trips. In addition to building a healthier community, Pedego partners with the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical

Center’s Whole Health Program two times per month to help with physical therapy and stress relief. In addition to their work with the VA, Cain is also working with the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) to develop more roads and infrastructure that makes biking in Kansas City safer and more accessible. With MARC, Cain is passionately working to improve trails to better connect the city from East to West – improving both freedom and choice for underserved communities.

Pedego offers bike rentals, maintenance and sells 18 different kinds of electric bikes – so there’s literally something for everyone. The bikes top out at around 20 miles per hour. Using the electric assist, riders can travel 40-45 miles on one charge – scooting around Kansas City has never been easier. Cain encourages everyone to stop by and try out the electric bikes and is sure you’ll leave smiling ear-to-ear.



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GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS: STEVE PAUL & CAROL ZASTOUPIL (MEYER BOULEVARD & CHERRY STREET)

How long have you lived in Oak Meyer Gardens?

We moved to the neighborhood in the spring of 2016, so we just passed our fifth anniversary.

Where else have you lived?

For 28 years we were less than a mile due west, near 65th and Jefferson, in the Greenway Fields neighborhood.

Describe your "job"?

Carol was a high school teacher for many years in the Kansas City School District. She now devotes quality time to her painting and other art works. She'll be in a group show this fall at the Daum Museum in Sedalia, and one of her fanciful landscapes goes on display in June at the Nerman Museum at Johnson County Community College. She also is our principal gardener and landscaper, and this year she is also growing veggies in a plot at the community garden space near Research Hospital.

Steve retired in 2016 after more than 40 years as a writer and editor at The Kansas City Star. He's now writing books and other things. Hemingway at Eighteen came out in 2017 and his forthcoming biography of the writer Evan S. Connell (Mrs. Bridge, Son of the Morning Star, etc.) is due out by the end of this year from the University of Missouri Press.



Connell, by the way, grew up just a few blocks away, in Armour Hills. Steve also writes regularly for KC Studio, the regional arts magazine (subscribe—it's free!), and serves on three or four boards, including Historic Kansas City and the advisory council for ClassicalKC, the new classical-music station (91.9 FM and streaming at classicalkc.com) operated by KCUR.

What do you like about the neighborhood?

The relative quiet, friendly people, walkability, trees and birds.

What would you like to see be made better?

We've been happy to see commercial development, especially restaurants, along 63rd Street to help anchor the neighborhood, but it would be nice to see even more activity, and more active green spaces throughout the neighborhood. Do we have even a vest-pocket park in OMG? Also, we think the neighborhood should have more block parties. We'd host one, but since, technically, we're the only house on our block—the only house with a Cherry Street address for maybe four blocks—we'd be the only ones there.



Literary Alchemist

The Writing Life of Evan S. Connell

Steve Paul



Perfect Palm by Carol Zastoupil

OUR URBAN FOREST

One of the advantages to living in Oak Meyer Gardens is having a large inventory of mature trees that add beauty and shade to our yards. The City-owned trees, those that lie within the City's street easement, are overseen by Natural Resources Management, under Kansas City Parks and Recreation. Kansas City actually has an Urban Forest Master Plan that keeps an eye on our City's mature canopy. While our canopy as a percentage of space is fairly decent, currently at 31%, the City acknowledges that there will be future tree loss as mature ones die or others fall victim to disease or insect infestation. The City is expecting approximately 9% of the public tree population to be lost in the near future to the emerald ash borer. Because of this, they hope to increase the tree canopy and have set a goal for 35% of tree canopy cover. With a greater budget, Kansas City easily has the capacity to double that amount.

If owners would like to help by planting a tree in the easement, they are required to get a permit from the City. The permit is free, but applying for one ensures that certain spacing requirements with regard to driveways, utility valves, light poles, and other trees are met. The City also has a list of recommended trees of all heights that grow well in the easements. (FYI: Gum trees are no longer recommended.) A second reason for the permit is that the Forestry Department keeps an inventory for tree pruning responsibilities, as well as for tracking diversity. Greater diversity makes for a healthier forest.

The Forestry Division is responsible for pruning and removing all trees in the City's easement. To inquire about tree permits, tree planting and removal, or tree pruning, call Forestry at 816-513-8553. For emergency services or to report storm damage, contact the 311 Action Center.

Trees do great things for our neighborhood:

- Trees increase property values
- Trees clean the air
- Trees slow water runoff
- Trees prevent soil erosion
- Trees help buffer noise pollution
- Trees cool our homes and streets
- Trees can save us money on energy costs
- Trees are beautiful.

Why not consider planting a tree this year?

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You may notice another change to the newsletter – ads. We are now including ads to help defray the cost of the newsletter. If you would like to promote your business to an educated and interesting group of people, please consider posting an ad in The Acorn. It is currently published three times a year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
hoa@oakmeyergardens.org

STILL LOOKING FOR A SUCCESSFUL PIAC PROJECT

During my time as Board President, we have been applying annually for PIAC funds to try to supplement our dues for neighborhood improvements. PIAC stands for Public Infrastructure Advisory Committee. PIAC provides citizens with the opportunity to make recommendations concerning the City budget for 20% of their planned infrastructure improvements.

Last year we made three different PIAC applications for replacement of curbs and sidewalks for a group of blocks within our HOA that appeared to be in the worst condition. The three areas were (1) 63rd Terrace between Holmes and Oak, and Cherry between 63rd Street and Meyer, (2) Kenwood Avenue between 66th Terrace and Holmes, and (3) 68th Terrace from Oak to Locust, and 66th Street from Cherry to Holmes. By trying to be focused on our greatest needs, and by dividing the application up into three pieces, our hope was to give the PIAC Committee the option of choosing one, or up to three. We did this at the suggestion of one of the PIAC Committee Co-Chairs. I am sorry to say that our applications were unsuccessful once again. Comments received back are that we may either be focusing too widely again, or now that the City is no longer assessing owners for replacing sidewalks and curbs, there are fewer PIAC dollars to award.

This year, we will narrow our focus even more and will apply for funding to help rebuild the gateway monuments at 63rd Terrace and Holmes. This particular pair of

monuments is crumbling to pieces, and it would take more money to renovate them than replace them. We believe these monuments were one of the first built in the neighborhood, and considering their size, which seems to be too large for the narrowness of their street, they may have served as the original gateway to Oak Meyer Garden. With that in mind, we may consider a more modest design that moves the monuments away from the street curb and opens up the feel of the entryway. If estimates are fairly reasonable, we may also include the pair of monuments at 63rd Terrace and Oak in our application. They are in better condition, but one that is still not conducive to renovation. We have been told that performing tuck pointing on its walls may cause additional spalling and loss of stone, and their columns may not survive mud jacking to adjust their tilt.

The PIAC Committee also has encouraged us to make our application leveraged, that is, to pay for a certain amount of the work. Leveraged applications score higher in the process and have a better chance of receiving funding. You may recall from a previous newsletter article, we should be able to do this because the pandemic has lessened some of our expenses around social gatherings and the annual meeting, leaving us a higher, one-time reserve.

Hopefully, this year's application will be a success.

— By Valerie Schroer

FAREWELL TO A TALL FRIEND



Geoff Hall and Michele Pritchard live on the southwest corner of Rockhill Road and Cherry Street. The house has had a magnificent Oak tree on the corner – until this week. Geoff posted this story on OMG Facebook page.

REQUIEM FOR A GOOD OAK



at the corner of Rockhill and Cherry in the Brookside neighborhood of Kansas City, Missouri. How many generations of Eastern grey squirrels did Teddy's acorns feed? How many neighborhood kids played hide and seek around its gigantic trunk? How many tons of its leaves were raked up by the many owners of TwinOaks?

These questions about Teddy's past remind me of a chapter from one of my all-time favorite books. The section called February (Good Oak) from Part I: A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold is something I have read and reread numerous times since my college days. The author similarly reflects upon the annual growth rings of a storm-fallen oak on his property in Wisconsin and muses about what happened in the wood when those rings were formed. It is one of the very best conservation-themed essays I know of and highly recommend you look it up and read it. Maybe it's just me, but I get choked up every single time I read it.



This photo was taken this morning around 6:45 am on Thursday, May 13, 2021. It is the last morning sunshine this pin oak will greet a new day. Interestingly enough, Michele and I purchased the house below this magnificent tree nine years ago today. We named our property TwinOaks due to it being framed by two mighty oak trees.

Michele decided to name the trees after our 26th and 36th Presidents (Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt). The tree named 'Teddy' greeted approximately 36,500 mornings during its lifetime of approximately 100 years. Old age and fungal disease brought this amazingly huge pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) to the point where we decided it was best to remove before a large windstorm drops a heavy limb on our roof. A crew of eight have been working for two days to systematically remove pieces of this tree and will eventually grind it down to its stump. One hundred years of life reduced to wood chips within 48 hours. Sigh.

I cannot help but reflect upon the life that this individual tree lived throughout its nearly ten decades of residence

Anyway, thank you Teddy for all of your gifts of beauty, attraction of wildlife, and protecting our house from sun, rain, and hail. Michele has saved a few seedlings from Teddy over the past couple of years in anticipation of its certain demise. Perhaps one day a new and mighty pin oak will grow near where Teddy once stood to welcome another 100 years of mornings while the world continues to spin. Let's just each do our part to ensure that there is a safe and nurturing world left for this seedling to reach its own potential.

— By Geoff Hall



NO TIME TO SIESTA... IT'S TIME TO FIESTA!

WHEN Sunday, June 27th — 2:00 to 4:00 pm

WHERE St. Peter's Church, 701 E Meyer Blvd. (south side next to the playground)

Oak Meyer Gardens Fiesta... featuring Estrella Azul Food Truck, Premier Shaved Ice, a disc jockey, photos, and piñatas!

Mark your calendar & remember to bring your own chair!

*OMG HOA will provide the shaved ice treats, pop, and water. Residents are responsible for food purchased from Estrella Azul.

LOOKING AROUND – AND BACK

Stand at the corner of Cherry Street and East 65th Street. You are in the approximate geographic center of Oak Meyer Gardens.

Slowly look at the view at street level as you turn in a complete 360-degree circle. Now, let's put our imagination to work.

Put yourself in the same place, and perform the same activity, about 50 years ago.

The cars will certainly be different. The trees will most likely be smaller. Any people walking by will be dressed differently than you would see today. The houses? Pretty much the same, at least on the outside.

Inside, there are likely to be new baths, new kitchens, new HVAC systems and radically different entertainment/communications and information systems. But, from an exterior perspective, not much has changed.

In the late 1960s, after finishing college, I worked in an office at 633 East 63rd Street, now home to

BKS Ales and other businesses. And I can assure you that everything along 63rd Street and along the outer edges of OMG is radically different today – and in a very good way, for the most part.

Where a new apartment building stands on the northwest corner of 63rd and Holmes, Herb Millington had a Conoco Service Station. In addition to pumping gas, Charlie Williams and Stan Laughlin worked on cars – especially sports cars (including some owned by my brother and me). The lot later hosted a Winchell's Donut Shop.

The A-frame shaped building next door to the apartment, now Unbakery and Juicery, was the drive-through facility for University Bank, whose main office was in the Bank of America space. The A-frame also once had a branch of Max's Burgers & Gyros, main store on Wornall.

The three office buildings on the south side of 63rd Street, which have been delightfully redone by Vincent "Butch" Rigby, all housed medical professional and dental offices. He has also done a superb job on other buildings, including my old office building, which now has a second story.

Heirloom Bakery and The Roasterie are in repurposed spaces that, back in the day, housed Ken West Standard stations. Brookside Wine and Spirits was a Mobil station. The space recently vacated by Fiddly Fig (near Charlie Hoopers) was the police and fire station for the area. Both services have moved to far larger and more elaborate buildings.

The Bakery housed Milwaukee Delicatessen, an old-line food shop that had originally been in Downtown KC. The bank at 63rd and Troost was Meierhoff's German Restaurant.

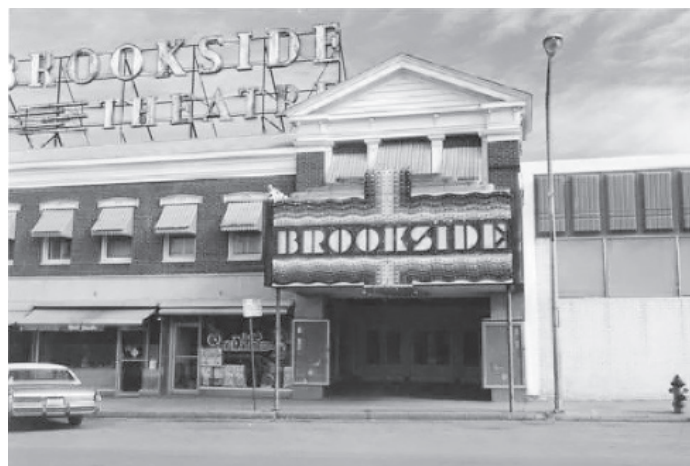
The Landing Shopping Center (a JCNichols property then) tells an alternate story. Fifty years ago, it had a Macy's department store, a series of classy restaurants, owned by Gilbert-Robinson, who created Houlihan's Old

Place, (which became a successful national chain), and other thriving businesses. The Landing is now in decline, but I am hoping the forces that have made East 63rd Street so attractive will help elevate it as well.

Our neighborhood was attractive and appealing fifty years ago – and long before that. Today, it is as nice as it ever was. And the spaces surrounding it are strong, vital, attractive – and getting more so.

And in my opinion, it is the people who live here – you, me and our neighbors – who are the reason.

— By Jon Goodman

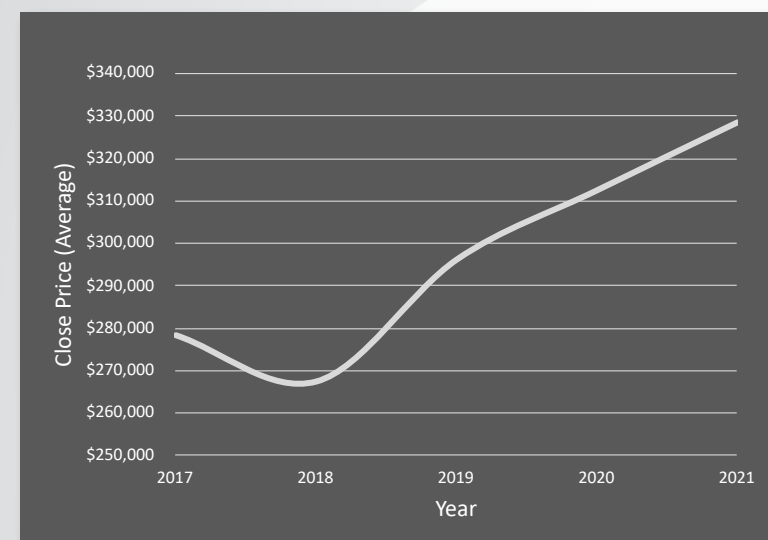


View of the Brookside Theatre, now site of the Brookside Price Chopper. Courtesy Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

JOHN KILBY

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REAL ESTATE AGENT

Single Family Residential Close Price Averages Jan 2017 to May 2021



WITH HOME SALE PRICES
AVERAGING **32% HIGHER** THAN
OTHER KC AREA AGENTS,
BH&G REALTORS ARE POISED
TO ENSURE YOU RECEIVE THE
GREATEST VALUE FOR YOUR HOME

**Better
Homes
and Gardens**

R E A L E S T A T E

"MY FAMILY AND I ALSO
LIVE IN OAK MEYER
GARDENS, SO I HAVE
PERSONAL EXPERIENCE
WITH THE VALUE OF
THIS WONDERFUL
COMMUNITY AND OUR
BEAUTIFUL HOMES."



JUNE 12, SATURDAY
Spring Dumpster Day
8-11 AM

JUNE 27, SUNDAY
Oak Meyer Gardens Fiesta
2-4 PM

AUGUST 14, SATURDAY
Ice Cream Social
(Details TBA)

OCTOBER 9, SATURDAY
Fall Dumpster Day
8-11 AM

NOVEMBER 18, THURSDAY
Annual Meeting
(Tentative)

Please visit
www.oakmeyergardens.org
for additional details.