

J u n e 2 0 0 7

Volume 30 No. 6

The Garden Oaks

Gazette



President's Message

Sheila Briones, 2007 Garden Oaks Civic Club President



Mayor Bill White and CM Toni Lawrence @ June 5th Civic Club Meeting

Mayor Bill White and City Council Member Toni Lawrence will be speaking at the June 5th Civic Club meeting. Both will be addressing the Carter's Grove Apartment situation.

This is your chance to meet Mayor White and CM Lawrence to let them know what is important to you as a resident of Garden Oaks.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the next Civic Club meeting on Tuesday, June 5th beginning at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Garden Oaks Elementary School, 901 Sue Barnett @ Garden Oaks Blvd.

Second "Meet & Greet" June 13th

The Membership Committee of the Civic Club has scheduled the second "Meet & Greet" at Molina's Cantina located at 4720 Washington Avenue on Wednesday, June 13th from 6 to 8 p.m. Molina's will provide free appetizers and a cash bar. Door prizes of gift certificates will be given away.

If you didn't attend the first "Meet & Greet" at the Rainbow Lodge, you missed a fun time with great food and beverages. The "Meet & Greet" event is the perfect opportunity to meet your Garden Oaks neighbors and to find out more information on the Civic Club info and the numerous volunteer opportunities.

2007 Bicycle Parade Sat. June 30th

Thanks to Deanna Zugheri who has stepped forward to head up this year's Bicycle Parade. The parade is Saturday, June 30th at the Rick Englert SPARK Park located at the corner of Sue Barnett and W. 41st. All are encouraged to arrive by 9:45 a.m. for the 10 a.m. parade start.

Deanna needs lots of volunteers to help plan the event. Contact Deanna by emailing her at Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com or by phone at 281-658-4514, if you would like to help out.

Now get to work on those floats, dust off your classic car or truck, get your bicycles oiled and new wheels on your skateboard. Let's show Garden Oaks what a red, white and blue parade really looks like!

2008 Home & Garden Tour

I am currently looking for someone to serve as General Chair for the Tour scheduled for Sunday, April 20. If you think you can meet this challenge, please contact me at 713-861-8091 or email me at sbriones@hotmail.com

Sue Schmidt, Selection Committee Chair, and her committee (Dian Austin, Susan Kostelecky, Holly Veech and Caroline McLean) are busy selecting home and gardens for the tour. If you would like to nominate your home or garden, contact Sue at 832-563-3402 or email her at sueschmidt@houston.rr.com

The Auction Committee now has a chair, Stephanie DuBroff-Acosta. I met Stephanie at this year's Montessori Pancake Breakfast & Silent Auction and was blown over by the quality and quantity of auction items that she acquired. Ultimately, it was the most successful auction of all times, so we're very glad to have her on-board.

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Meet and Greet 2007

Wednesday, June 13, 2007
6-8 p.m.

Molina's Cantina

4720 Washington Avenue
(at the Northeast corner of
Washington and Shepherd)

Complimentary
Food and Cash Bar

Next Civic Club Meeting Tuesday, June 5th

The next Civic Club meeting will be on Tuesday, June 5th at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria, 901 Sue Barnett @ Garden Oaks Blvd. Babysitting services are available at a cost of \$1.00 per child. Hope to see you there!

Civic Club Officers

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Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

Cindy Bartos

Welcome:

President Sheila Briones called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. She then asked new attendees to stand and introduce themselves. A motion was made and seconded to approve the April minutes as they appeared in the Gazette.

Treasurer's Report:

Jerry Butler presented the current income and expense report and had detailed copies available at the meeting. He again reported that the Constable Program is low on funds.

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Beautification:** Brenda DeAlba reported the committee's work is completed for now and there will be no more work days scheduled until the fall.

Constable Program: Terry Jeanes reported the Constable Program is funded until September of 2007. 1,140 application forms are being mailed this week to residents not currently enrolled in the Constable Program, hoping to increase membership in the program. She mentioned the option on the registration form of either paying the \$140 yearly fee or of paying a lesser contribution determined by the applicant. In the 2 ½ years the program has been in place there has been an overall drop in crime statistics. Terry explained that Harris County subsidizes 20% of the constable's pay. She encouraged members to support the GOMO proposal of adding an additional nighttime constable.

Constable David Vest again emphasized the importance of keeping vehicles locked, valuables out of sight, and parking closer to a residence. He mentioned that he has taken a "zero tolerance" approach to seeing people in the neighborhood that he doesn't recognize and will ask them to move on if necessary. He has been doing regular checks in the parks for people sleeping in the parks. He encouraged residents to call the Constable's office if they see any suspicious activity or for people speeding through the neighborhood. Brenda DeAlba thanked Constables Vest and Martin for their response to a call concerning some resident teenagers' recent misconduct at the Gazebo Park. Constable Vest also

added the warning that he is monitoring illegal left turns out of Garden Oaks Elementary, u-turns in the street and vehicles not coming to a complete stop at stop signs.

- **Gazette:** Sue Schmidt and Jonathan Lanz were not present
- **Garden Oaks Citizen Patrol:** Carl Waters reported 28 crimes to date for the year 2007 compared to 21 at this time last year. He said they have 14 volunteers for the Citizen's Patrol Program with 5 patrolling on a regular basis. Volunteers must be a resident of Garden Oaks, age 18 or older and willing to attend a one hour training by the Houston Police Department.
- **Website:** Joe Muscara had no report
- **Membership:** Dian Austin reported we have 312 paid members. She also reported that the next "Garden Oaks Meet and Greet" would take place at Molina's Cantina on Washington Ave. on June 13th. More details will be announced in the Gazette. Tina Nieto was the winner of a \$25 Home Depot Gift Card raffle drawing.
- **Terry Jeanes,** in adding to the earlier Constable report mentioned that John Goodman's daughter (800 block of Fisher) had recently been bitten by a stray dog. Deputy Vest has caught six dogs and has two more he hopes to catch soon. She encouraged residents to call the Constable Dispatch phone number to report problems with stray dogs.
- **Garden Club:** Chris Lindsay announced that Garden Club meetings are the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the GOMO offices of the Garden Oaks Professional Building. The yearly membership fee is \$25. She thanked the Civic Club members that designated an additional monetary contribution to the Garden Club when paying their Civic Club dues. The next meeting will be May 17.
- Garden Oaks Elementary:** Principal Emily Thomas pointed out the beautification projects that have been completed around the campus and thanked the parent volunteers and the Civic Club for their donations of time and money. She announced that the school has received a grant from Urban Harvest for this year and next. Representatives from Urban Harvest have been to the school several times, working with the children and harvesting some of the products from the garden to sell.

GO Civic Club Minutes

Continued from page 2

Old business: Gil Evans, Chair of the ad hoc committee on Carter's Grove
Continued on page 3

reported on a meeting she had Tuesday, April 24th with Councilwoman Toni Lawrence. When asked what we can expect next, Gil reported that Councilwoman Lawrence said since this was the first forced closure by the city of an apartment complex she wasn't sure. The property is currently for sale and Lawrence stated the city thought it would sell soon. Lawrence also said that if the area becomes a problem for the neighborhood the city has the authority to tear down the property. Lawrence will also support the Garden Oaks community with their preferences should the property sell. If residents see a problem at the complex Gil urged them to contact 911 for emergencies or 713- 884-3131. To report any deteriorating conditions or a breach in the fencing, residents should call 311. Committee member Chris Lindsay will be keeping a diary of all reports concerning Carter's Grove so if you make a report to HPD or 311 please let Chris know so she can include it in her records. Laura Rahman will be the contact for the Houston Chronicle and Joanne Houck will be in contact with Terry Jeanes and the Constable's office. Gil encouraged residents to contact a committee member with any concerns with the property:

Gil Evans:
evansgil@aol.com

Chris Lindsay:
chris.lindsay@sbcglobal.com

Laura Rahman:
laura_rahman@yahoo.com

Shelly Rogers reported that the two apartment buildings directly behind the strip center are and still legally occupied, part of Carter's Grove and owned by the same owner per HCAD.

- GOMO: Ed DeAlba announced there would be a GOMO meeting immediately following tonight's Civic Club meeting. A vote to determine the replacement of the Section 1 Director and the proposed distribution of surplus GOMO funds will take place.

New Business: none

President Briones introduced Kathleen Ownby, SPARK Park Director and Lauren Griffin, Architect who gave a presentation on the proposed improvements to the SPARK Park at Garden Oaks Elementary School.

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 p.m.
Attendance: 70

Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome new neighbors who recently joined the neighborhood.

Congratulations on joining us. We hope to see you at a civic club meeting soon.

1035 Lamonte	935 Gardenia
955 Lamonte	907 Lamonte
978 Althea	807 Lamonte
515 West 30 th	1071 West 41 st .
3105 Randall	722 West 42 nd .

Congratulations June Birthdays and Celebrations....

Andrew Joseph Balance (1st),
Stephen Wesley Syzdek (4th)
Rebecca Stark (5th), **Tina Parks Rowe** (5th), **Stacey Wood** (14th), and
Christopher Lee (18th).

Happy Anniversary to **Janice & Warren Walden** (22nd).

Trips and getaways...Tina Parks just returned from a trip to Vegas and **Patty Walters** ventured to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Congratulations to **Chris Roberts** who graduated from Lamar High School. In addition Chris earned his Eagle Scout award this year for the great job he did with the walkway and fruit orchid at the Garden Oaks Elementary garden.

In Memoriam : longtime Garden Oaks residents **Archie Hutto** and **Earl Marmion** .

To highlight an event, celebration, or other tidbit, contact Terry Jeanes at 713-812-9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com.

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GOMO Board of Directors

Section 1:

Graham Gips (2007)

Home: 713 824-9204
408 W. 31st Street
graham.gips@gmail.com

Kathy Horner (2009)

Cell: 713 385-2050
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Richard Stark (2008)

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rstark@lucasgroup.com

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Secretary
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malcolmtaylor@chevrontexaco.com

Tim Weltin (2008)

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1567 Sue Barnett Drive
timweltin@mycase.info

John Ciccarelli (2009)

Home: 713 688-8285
4310 Apollo Street
ciccarelli@intergate.com

Terms expire at end of October of the Year in parenthesis.

GOMO Notes

Ed de Alba

GOMO held a special meeting May 1st in the cafeteria of Garden Oaks Elementary to elect a Director and to vote on the disposition of surplus funds.

Sean Jez Elected Section 1 Director

Sean Jez was elected, filling the position in Section 1 vacated by Jeff Toxey when he transferred to Jakarta, Indonesia. Congratulations Sean on your win! The vote was 74 For, 0 Against.

Surplus Funds Proposals Approved Overwhelmingly

Late last year GOMO mailed a survey to all member households. GOMO proposed spending surplus funds on the three items with the highest levels of support. These were:

Vote to approve spending the sum of \$65,000.00 for an additional Night Time Security Patrol in Garden Oaks. This Patrol to be provided by Harris County Constable Precinct 1.

Proposal Approved: For 193, Against 16, Abstain 4, Total Votes 213, % For 91%

Vote to approve spending the sum of \$35,000.00 for upgrades to the Garden Oaks SPARK Park located next to Garden Oaks Elementary School.

Proposal Approved: For 186, Against 24, Abstain 3, Total Votes 213, % For 87%

Vote to approve spending the sum of \$10,000.00 for enhancements to and maintenance of the Garden Oaks Neighborhood Green Spaces.

Proposal Approved: For 194, Against 16, Abstain 3, Total Votes 213, % For 91%

Thank you all for participating and voting.

An Open Invitation to All of Our Meetings

We would like to personally invite all GOMO Members to our meetings. Democracy works best in an open environment and that is as true at the neighborhood level as it is at the Federal and State levels. There is no better way for the people of our community to see for themselves how we evaluate the building plans brought to us and how we reach consensus.

It is also the best way to get your questions answered. The GOMO Board is made up of 12 people and the Board doesn't have an "opinion" about a topic unless a majority of a quorum forms a consensus view. So no one Board Member is able to tell you what GOMO "thinks" about an issue or idea until we have an opportunity to deliberate and form a collective opinion. The formation of GOMO policy and opinion takes place every third Wednesday of the month at our business meetings held at the GOMO Office, 7:00 PM, Garden Oaks Professional Building, 4001 N. Shepherd, Suite 216. You are very welcome to attend, make suggestions,

Summer is almost here...

and while children are having fun with their free time they can be at a greater risk of exposure to child predators. They will be riding bicycles, visiting friends, swimming, playing in their yards and enjoying public parks. Many people are aware of web sites that are available to keep families aware of predators in their community. Awareness is the first step to protecting children. If you have not done a child predator check recently you can do one by your zip code at:

www.familywatchdog.us/. This web site has information on safety, child predators, laws and much more.

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes

Thank you to the Garden Oaks Maintenance organization members who voted favorably to fund another Deputy for Garden Oaks. The Civic Club will coordinate this program, but how does it affect our current program??? In essence we add 40 hrs of additional patrol during nighttime hours. Yet the current contract, funded by neighbor's volunteer dollars (which were dropped by \$100 dollars 2 years ago), still must be paid for by neighborhood supporters. On the Garden Oaks website you can see the list of paid supporters for 2007 program. An additional May mailing was sent to households who had not yet supported our crime deterring efforts. As of this writing we have received approximately 20 more supporters, but need more to carry Deputy Vest's contract through the full year of 2007. Then remember the last Quarter 07 mailer will arrive to support the 2008 calendar contract and your civic club dues...we will need you then too!

Proactive policing has resulted in a drop in our crimes stats since the reactivation of the Garden Oaks Constable program. Think of what we can do with 2 officers on the street and the back up of the Shepherd Park Deputy. **A 15% DROP the initial year and continued lower stats than when the program was not here! If you want to continue with lower crimes stats your support is a must!** The key to lower crime is...Response time.... and proactive policing... Deputy Vest and other Precinct One Deputies can respond to calls more quickly than HPD due to their manpower shortage. Deputy Vest, if he does not recognize parties, he will stop them and check them out to running the ID's and plates. He encourages parties who have no business here to stick to the outer streets as necessary and has removed many with a wide range of open warrants from drugs, aggravated assault, and more. Proactive policing includes running traffic for speeders and safety in the school zones. Deputy Vest also rescued an older beagle of a former Civic Club officer from traffic on West 43rd. in addition to the capture of a dog suspected in the biting of a neighborhood child. This animal was likely involved in the recent cat attacks as well. Early morning park checks and ridding unwanted vagrants from the area are also part of Deputy Vest's daily routine..

Despite the GOMO vote last month, Your support is still needed. For without you the daytime program for our own personalized Deputy ends September/October.

So if you still have not sent in your supporter contribution form for 2007 please use the one in the Gazette, on see this link www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/ContributorForm.pdf.

Constable Program benefits include:

- 40 hours of a designated Harris County Constable
- Vacation watch by Harris County Constable. Forms available at: www.gardenoaks.org/Resources Security Checks for insurance discounts.
- Alarm contact/ response by Harris County Constable
- Perceived value by prospective new neighbors considering buying in Garden Oaks because the neighbors work collectively to make the neighborhood safer.
- Low Cost. The annual fee is \$140 per year (Jan-Dec), which is less than 40 cents per day. There are two payment options. An annual check of \$140 or a bank draft option of \$15 per month. Contact Terry Jeanes at 713-812-9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com with any question

And remember you are an additional set of eyes and ears!!!! By all means if you see something unusual or something that you are not quite sure about make the call to Constable Dispatch at 713 755 7628. No mater the time of day. Your call could make the difference.

2007 April Stats.

Miles Patrolled - 1438
Court Citations - 13
Alarm Responses - 2
Written Warnings - 2
Vacations Watches - 0
Suspicious Vehicles - 9
Park checks - 56
Criminal Offenses - 0
Arrests - 1



Terry Jeanes

your Garden Oaks neighbor
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT

January - December 2007

**TO: GARDEN OAKS
RESIDENT**

Membership is open to all residents whether you own or rent. Please choose the level you feel most comfortable supporting. **While all memberships are voluntary, at a minimum you must contribute \$25 (or \$5 for Seniors 65 years or older) in order to be eligible to vote on civic club matters.** Membership dues are for the calendar year.

Fill in Amount

\$_____ CREPE MYRTLE: \$25.00 (\$5.00 for Seniors)
Basic Household Membership

\$_____ THE MAGNOLIA: \$50.00 (\$10.00 for Seniors)
Intermediate Level – Household Membership

\$_____ THE GOLDEN OAK: \$75.00 (\$15.00 for Seniors)
Patron Level – Household Membership

\$_____ OTHER (Contributions other than the levels above)
Fill in amount you would like to contribute

\$_____ BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP: \$50.00 (non-voting membership)

\$_____ CONTRIBUTION TO GARDEN CLUB

\$_____ CONTRIBUTION TO THE SPARK PARK

\$_____ TOTAL

Membership dues go toward supporting all Garden Oaks Civic Club Activities: Beautification, Citizens on Patrol, The *Gazette*, Home Tour, Membership Committee and Website. The more you give, the more we can do!

Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to:
Garden Oaks Civic Club, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206.
THANK YOU!

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

GO Kids News

Tonya Knauth

Moms' Night Out for June will be Thursday, June 7, 7 pm, at Collina's on 19th St.

The June Family Potluck will be Saturday, June 23, 4 - 7 pm, at the home of Janet and Wade Williams, 1045 Martin St. The Williams' have a pool, so we can swim! Bring your family and a favorite dish -- adult and children's beverages will be provided.

GO Kids was started by a group of parents who want to build a family-friendly neighborhood where children and parents know each other and grow together -- all Garden Oaks families are welcome! Aren't on the GO Kids list serve? Want more information about GO Kids? Contact Tonya Knauth at (713) 628-8243, or

Wanted Block Captain's For:

- Randall St in Sec. 1A
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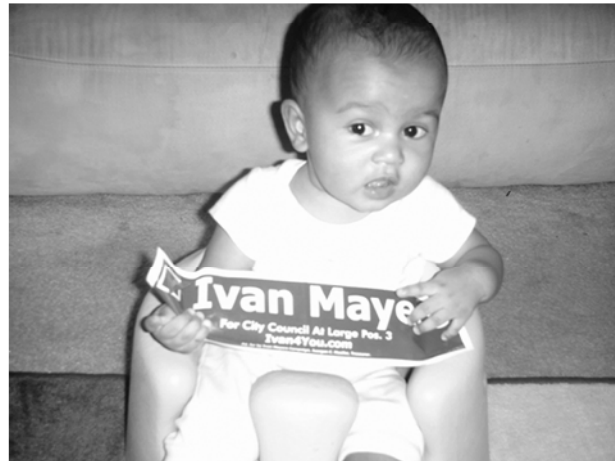
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Citizens Patrol Program

Carl Waters Jr.

There was a little good news on the crime front for the month of March. There were only six crimes on the HPD list for the neighborhood as compared with ten crimes reported in March 2006. However year to date, we are still running at about a 25% increase in reported crimes over last year.

Summer is fast approaching and that means another hot Garden Oaks tradition is also quickly approaching. Now is a good time to start your initial plans for National Night Out which will be celebrated on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 so get together with your neighbors and plan a block party for everyone to enjoy.

March Crime Statistics (6)

Robbery (1)

1000 block of Sue Barnett Dr. on Thursday, March 15th at 10:20 p.m. (street).

Burglary (2)

300 block of W. 34th St. on Wednesday, March 14th at Noon (residence).

3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Saturday, March 17th at 9:00 p.m. (commercial building).

Burglary of Motor Vehicle (1)

3100 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Friday, March 30th at 4:30 p.m. (restaurant parking lot).

Narcotics (1)

3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Friday, March 23rd at 10:20 a.m. (convenience store parking lot).

Driving While Intoxicated (1)

2900 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Thursday, March 1st at 10:50 p.m. (street).

As always inquires about joining the Citizens Patrol Program or about other community safety issues can be directed to me via neighborhood website GardenOaks.org or to the COP email account at



DianaTarley.com 713-539-0569

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HPD Non Emergency Services

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All other City Services

311

Constable Dispatch

713-755-7628

Advertising & Article Submission Guidelines

The Garden Oaks Gazette is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published on a monthly basis. It is hand delivered to 1,550 homes the first week of each month.

The Gazette's primary purpose is to disseminate information about Civic Club activities and community events.

Advertising rates are shown to the right. If you would like to purchase ad space, please contact the Editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

All articles must be submitted by the 15th of each month for publication the following month. Contributing articles will be printed at the Editor's discretion and edited according to space availability. Publication of any article not related to the Civic Club does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 1/4 x 2 3/8	\$50.00	\$250.00	\$480.00
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GO Winers and Diners

Sue Schmidt

The schedules were so full this month we almost didn't get a chance to meet. Luckily, it all came together and a night at Fratelli's was on the agenda. Funny, I sometimes forget the restaurants on 290 and opt for "inside the loop". Several in the group made the same comment. We all agreed though that Fratelli's deserves to be visited again and again. It ranks high on our list of favorite restaurants we have tried.

We gathered at 7:00 with the table ready and waiting. When a table count snafu (okay, I'm the guilty party) added one more to our group, the waitstaff was quick to remedy the situation. A fabulous Chilean cabernet was ordered and we were off and running. Wonderful fresh bread and a fabulous pesto sauce were brought to the table. YUM! It disappeared so quickly you would swear no one at the table had lunch! A delicious selection of appetizers followed: the gnocchi, hand made potato spinach dumplings topped with a melted gorgonzola sauce, was definitely the favorite. Stuffed mushroom caps with crab meat, spinach and parmesan cheese were a close second.

Several at the table had heard about the unbelievable pear salad...and it is just that, unbelievable! I would return just for the salad. The salad, with melted gorgonzola cheese atop the thinly sliced pear on a bed of fresh spinach with a wonderful vinaigrette dressing, was incredible. Who could ask for more?

The entrees arrived at just the right time. Animated conversation and laughter continued even as the server delivered the food, and the service was truly impeccable. Everyone had their orders at the same time, and the food presentation was very nice. With a choice of pasta or vegetables (or a combination of both) with the entrees and good portion sizes, the main courses were perfect. Our "raised in

the restaurant business" member commented that the fish was amazing, fresh, not "fishy". The toppings were creative. Impressive comments from someone who knows!

The Pollo al Dragoncello, chicken breast in a creamy tarragon mustard sauce w/red peppers, was great. The comment was made that the mustard sauce was "perfect, not too creamy and not too thin, just right". One of the favorite menu items was the stuffed pork chop with fresh spinach and gorgonzola topped with mushrooms. It was flavored to perfection and plenty enough to share. Another diner had lasagna and swears it is the best she has ever eaten. "A thick wedge of tender noodles filled and topped with a deliciously thick bolognese sauce...the lasagna melted in my mouth and the tasty sauce was the perfect complement. No weak, thin boring sauce here!" Another comment on the bolognese sauce brings the highest of praise. "I actually think it's the best meat sauce this side of Rome (for real)." This has to be *the* first time no one, not one person, had an item they did not like or comment that it was mediocre at best.

All in all, we were very pleasantly surprised with the warm, inviting ambience of Fratelli's. The restaurant provided a cozy dining experience with spacious tables, low light and soft music...a great "date" restaurant. The fabulous menu selections, quality of meal and service, and overall consistency of the restaurant rates high marks. Fratelli's will definitely be a restaurant of choice for many in the group. One Winer/Diner called to check in after missing our evening of good food, inspiring conversation and great fun. When he heard our enthusiastic rave reviews on this month's Winers and Diners restaurant, he was just sure we must be exaggerating. All I can say is find your way to Fratelli's, 10989 Hwy 290 (at W. 34th) as soon as you can for a meal you will not soon forget. Fabulous!



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Critter Corner

Casey and Mau Mau Farris

School is out and summer is officially here. Are you ready for the next four months of chasing the shade? It is already hot enough for heat exhaustion so make sure your pets are protected from the soaring temperatures. When you are outside watering don't forget all of the other little creatures that need water too. This month we talk about pool safety for pets. Our pet of the month trio don't swim but love to drink from their pool.

Pet of the Month: "Mses. June" are the three Benjamin-Merritt girls in Section 2. Sandy (yellow Lab) is six years old; Molly (Rhodesian Ridgeback) is eight years old; and Nikki (Pekinese) is ten years old. They share their house with their parents, Jeff Benjamin and Tim Merritt, along with some outside fish and some inside fish. These girls have become the best of friends and each one has carved a unique role in the family. Sandy is the sweetest and most sensitive while Molly is the protector leaving Nikki to be the princess and the most vocal as she coordinates all activities. The girls like food treats and playing fetch. Sandy and Molly play with Frisbees and sticks while Nikki prefers her frog toy. They also enjoy hanging out around the pool with their humans. Let's hear it for the girls and let's hear it for a great summer by the pool!

Critters 101: Pool Safety

Many dogs love to swim; why not? It's a great way to cool off, get some exercise and have fun. In earlier years, a large number of family pets died in swimming pool tragedies. We take so many precautions when it comes to protecting our children from the pitfalls of water danger, what are we doing for our capricious pets? When your dog falls into your pool, it is true that he will be able to swim for some time, but if you can not help them soon, they will get overcome with fatigue and their chances of drowning increase.

Place a ramp in the swimming pool which extends from the pool to the poolside. This will let the pet walk out of the pool with ease. Take your pet right into the pool with you, and show them how they can climb out using the

ramp. If they are apprehensive, put one of their favorite treats or toys on the side of the pool at the top of the ramp. Practice until you feel comfortable that your pet has gotten the idea.

Another good idea is to put some type



of columns, like a plant, on either side of the pool steps and again take your pet into the pool and practice swimming to the steps and climbing out of the pool.

Casey Farris is owner/operator of Bone Voyage Pet Sitting Services and Go Dog USA, Home of the Go Dog Social Club and Go Dog Academy @ Urban Tails. Mau Mau Farris is owner/operator of Casey. Please forward your questions and pet news to Casey@GoDogUSA.com or call

Mayor Bill White and CM Toni Lawrence @ June 5th Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting

Mayor Bill White and City Council Member Toni Lawrence will be speaking at the June 5th Civic Club meeting. Both will be addressing the Carter's Grove Apartment situation.

This is your chance to meet Mayor White and CM Lawrence to let them know what is important to you as a resident of Garden Oaks.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the next Civic Club meeting on Tuesday, June 5th beginning at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Garden Oaks Elementary School, 901 Sue Barnett @ Garden Oaks Blvd.



Bone Voyage

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Casey Farris
Owner/Pet Lover

www.goDOGusa.com

ART LIVE MUSIC

June 2, July 7,
August 4, Sept 1
Hours: 6pm - 10pm



1st Saturdays
in the Heights
at
Wind Water
Gallery
548
West 19th St.

www.YaleStreetMarket.com

2007 GO Red, White and Blue Bicycle Parade to be held Saturday, June 30th

Deanna Zugheri

Garden Oaks 2007 Red, White and Blue Bicycle Parade is **scheduled for Saturday, June 30th**, beginning at **10:00 a.m.** at Rick Englert SPARK Park on Sue Barnett, with pre-registration beginning at **9:30 a.m.**

This year promises to be the largest and best-attended parade Garden Oaks has ever seen. With the enormous patriotic spirit that is in this community, it is expected that anyone who is not in the parade will be on the street cheering. Bring a lawn chair and find a seat along the parade route.

The parade begins at the Rick Englert SPARK Park, proceeds north on Sue Barnett, continues west on the 800 block of W. 41st, turns right on Alba,

turns right and continues east on the 800 block of W. 42nd, where it will turn right on Sue Barnett before returning to the SPARK Park.

There is a SHORT parade route which also begins from the Rick Englert SPARK Park, proceeds north on Sue Barnett, circles the Gazebo Park from the east, and returns south on Sue Barnett back to the park.

First, second and third place prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- Strollers
- Tricycles
- Wagons

• Youth bicycles (5 and under, 6-10 yrs., 11-18 yrs.)

• Adult bicycles

• Floats

• Pets

• Skaters

Refreshments will be served right after the parade.

Volunteers are needed to work the registration table, serve as judges, parade marshals, and photographers. If you are interested in helping, contact Deanna Zugheri at

Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com or 281-658-4514.



Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com

281-658-4514



Join Your Neighbors for a Meet and Greet

Wednesday, June 13, 2007 • 6-8 p.m.

Molina's Cantina

*4720 Washington Avenue
at the Northeast corner of Washington and Shepherd*

Complimentary food and cash bar

Join us for the second 2007 Meet and Greet sponsored by the Garden Oaks Civic Club Membership Committee.

If you came to our first Meet and Greet in March, then you know how much fun we had. If you missed it, then here's another opportunity to meet some new neighbors and learn how you can be more involved in the community. And you can check out another new restaurant close to the neighborhood!

There will be some great door prizes (dining gift certificates) provided by Terry Jeanes (RE/MAX Metro) and Chris Schmidt (SCM Construction). Sue Schmidt (Keller Williams Metropolitan) is donating some great Astros tickets in the Crawford boxes.

Molina's Cantina has generously offered to host our second event and will provide complimentary appetizers during the evening.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET SOME GREAT NEIGHBORS!



2007 Garden Oaks Constable Program Contributor Application

Please print or write legibly • All information is held strictly confidential • Mail completed applications to
Garden Oaks Constable Program, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206.

_____NEW or _____RENEWAL

MEMBER 1 (M1): _____

MEMBER 2 (M2): _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME # _____

(M1) EMAIL: _____ (M2) E-MAIL: _____

(M1) WORK #: _____ (M2) WORK #: _____

(M1) CELL #: _____ (M2) CELL #: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____

HOME #: _____ WORK #: _____ CELL #: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____

HOME #: _____ WORK #: _____ CELL #: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Enclosed find my payment for 2007 of \$140. (Make checks payable to Garden Oaks Civic Club)

I/We cannot contribute \$140 now; however, enclosed please find my/our check for \$_____.

I/We will participate via bank draft. (Complete DRAFT AUTHORIZATION FORM below)

Many of our neighbors live on limited, fixed incomes. Are you willing to adopt a neighbor?

Yes! Please accept my additional gift of \$_____ for the year (enclosed) OR \$_____ per month draft

DRAFT AUTHORIZATION FORM

I, _____, hereby authorize **Chase Bank** to begin Direct Debiting of my Bank

Account Number _____ at _____ Bank and Bank

Routing Number _____ for my participation.

This monthly authorization remains in effect until written notice is given to the **Constable Chair of the Garden Oaks Civic Club**. If any changes occur to my bank account, I will promptly notify the **Constable Chair of the Garden Oaks Civic Club** so that my Constable Program dues can be directly debited from the correct account.

- Please take \$15 out of my account monthly for the Garden Oaks Constable Patrol Program.
- This authorization includes a debit for an additional \$_____ monthly gift to the program.
- This authorization includes permission for a \$15 cancellation fee.

Printed Name _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Telephone _____

Attach voided check & mail to Garden Oaks Constable Program PO Box 10273 Houston Tx 77206

Celebrating Kids and Families

Saturday June 2, 2007

11 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Grace United Methodist Church

1245 Heights Blvd. Houston, TX 77008



The Houston Zoo Mobile will bring the Zoo to you with biofacts such as furs and skulls, interactive games or activities, and small live animals. Live animals may include reptiles, birds, mammals, and insects; however, the exact animal we bring to you will be a surprise.



Information on summer programs, camps and membership information will be available.

There will also be short demonstrations on Stroller Fit, Roaming Rompers and Kid Fit / Circus Fit programs throughout the day.

100+ ACTIVITIES FOR, HOUSTON KIDS

Being a parent is no easy job and the Houston humidity doesn't make it easier. As a mom and native Houstonian, Megan F.

Salch culls through loads of information and shares it in the book *100+ Activities for Houston Kids*. Whether you're looking for upcoming events, restaurant suggestions or year-round fun, this book is the resource for local families.

Megan will speak at 12:00 about some great summer activities & will be on hand selling her book.



What better way to beat the Houston heat than with a deliciously cold Smoothie from Maui Wowi Hawaiian! Not only are these smoothies a healthy all-natural treat but kids love them! Give your kids (and yourself) a healthy alternative.



Come hear Sarah Gish talk at 1:30pm about the magic of summer. Summer is a time for kids to explore their passions and Sarah gives tips on how to encourage that. She'll also discuss summer camps and ideas on how to make summer with kids a joy. She'll have her annual comprehensive guide to over 200 Houston day camps and classes, *The Summer Book*, on hand to sell and will be happy to consult on summer programs with parents after her talk. The guide is published by her marketing firm, [Gish Creative](#).

ID-A Kid

Prudential Financial will be on hand offering a complimentary child identification card that parents can use to record important information such as the child's fingerprints, photo and physical description.

There will be tons of fun activities, games and refreshments for children of all ages, so plan to come by and join in the fun!

The Heights is a great place to find summer fun!



June 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	Civic Club Meeting 7pm GOES Cafeteria & GOMO Plan Review Meeting	6	7	8	9
10	11		13 Meet & Greet <i>Molina's</i> 7pm	14	15 Deadline for Gazette Submissions	16
17 Father's Day	18	19	GOMO Meeting 7pm	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Bicycle Parade SPARK Park 10am

Garden Oaks 2007 Red, White and Blue Bicycle Parade



When:
Saturday, June 30th
 @
10:00 a.m

Location:
Rick Englert SPARK Park on Sue Barnett

pre-registration begins at 9:30 a.m.