

The Garden Oaks

Gazette



President's Message

Sheila Briones, Garden Oaks Civic Club President

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Don't forget to support National Night Out by hosting or attending a gathering with neighbors on Tuesday, August 7. There will not be an August Civic Club meeting so neighbors can go out and get acquainted with each other.

National Night Out is designed to:

- **Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness**
- **Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs**
- **Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and**
- **Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back**

The Honorable Dwayne Bohac, State Representative, District 138 will be among the many National Night Out participants. He would like to visit with as many Garden Oaks residents as possible to update them on the last legislative session. If you would like State Representative to stop by your party, please call me at 713-861-8091 and leave me your address.

SPECIAL "THANKS"

I want to publicly thank Deanna and Will Zugheri for chairing the 2007 Bicycle Parade held at the SPARK Park, Saturday, June 30. It was one of the most successful bicycle parades ever. Over 200 neighbors participated along with two Art Cars, the Batmobile and the Pink Flamingo Mobile.

Toni Lawrence, District A City Council Member, was this year's Parade Grand Marshall. The parade was also featured on KHOU-TV, Channel 11 on both the 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. newscasts. Thanks also to Nathan Kvinge, Garden Oaks resident, who shot the video for Channel 11.

WAY TO GO IRMA GALVAN!

Congratulations to Irma Galvan, owner of Irma's Restaurant and a Garden Oaks resident. She was recently named as one of five honorees of the 2007 "Embrace Life" Awards from the State Farm Life Insurance Company. The award is being given for Irma's contribution to family, community and society following the sudden loss of her spouse. Irma travels to New York City (for the first time) to accept her award in September.

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Friendly Reminder

Deadline for Submission is the 15th of Every Month.

No exceptions. No submissions will be accepted after this date. This allows us to proofread, edit, and the printing to be done in a timely manner for delivery to all Garden Oaks Residents.

National Night Out Tuesday, August 7th

**There will not be an
August Civic Club
Meeting**

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Citizens Patrol Program

Carl Waters Jr.

August is the month we celebrate National Night Out, so don't forget to gather with your neighbors on Tuesday, August 7th, to help keep crime out of Garden Oaks. If you are hosting a party, please contact Civic Club President Sheila Briones, Terry Jeanes or myself to share your information.

As you may recall, last year the month of May was the starting point of a couple of months where high numbers of crimes were reported for the neighborhood. This year 5 less crimes were reported in May. A trend I hope continues for the rest of the year. Through May we had 51 crimes reported compared to 41 last year. That reflects a 20% increase from last year.

May Crime Statistics (10)

Robbery (1)

- 3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Tuesday, May 8th at 5:52 p.m. (specialty store).

Aggravated Assault (1)

- 2900 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Thursday, May 10th at 4:55 p.m. (street).

Burglary (3)

- 900 block of Sue Barnett Dr. on Saturday, May 5th at 11:52 p.m. (elementary school).
- 800 block of W. 42nd St. on Sunday, May 20th at 7:30 p.m. (residence).
- 200 block of W. 30th St. on Tuesday, May 29th at 10:27 a.m. (residence).

Burglary Motor Vehicle (3)

- 300 block of W. 31st St. on Sunday, May 13th at 9:00 a.m. (residence).
- 4200 block of Alba St. on Thursday, May 17th at 2:15 p.m. (street).
- 700 block of Garden Oaks Blvd on Wednesday, May 23rd at 11:00 p.m. (driveway).

Narcotics (2)

- 3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Wed, May 2nd at 8:00 p.m. (street).

- 3000 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Monday, May 7th at 6:42 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 **GOCOP77018@AOL.com.** or by phone at 713-864-1992.

Reference Numbers

Emergency Services

911

HPD NON Emergency Services

713-884-3131

All other City Services

311

Constable Dispatch

713-755-7628

National Night Out

Carl Waters Jr.

Tuesday, August 7th has been designated as National Night Out for this year. This is a good way to get to know your new neighbors and get reacquainted with those you have fallen out of touch with during the past year. National Night Out, 'America's Night Out Against Crime,' was introduced by the National Association of Town Watch in 1984. The program was the brainchild of Executive Director Matt A. Peskin. In an effort to heighten awareness and strengthen participation in local anticrime efforts, Peskin felt that a high-profile, high-impact type of crime prevention event was needed nationally. At that time, he noted that in a typical 'crime watch community', only 5 to 7% of the residents were participating actively. Due to the growth and success of these programs, he felt this percentage was too low. Subsequently, he proposed a national program which would be coordinated by local crime prevention agencies and organizations - but that would involve entire communities at one time. The first National Night Out was introduced early in 1984 - with the event culminating on the first Tuesday in August. That first year, 400 communities in 23 states participated in National Night Out. Nationwide, 2.5 million Americans took part in 1984. The event has since grown to involve more than **34 million people in over 10,000 communities from all 50 states**, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide. The National Night Out program suggests a 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. time frame, but you can adjust the start or end times to meet the needs of your block. If you are interested in hosting a party, please call me at 713-864-1992 (evenings please) or email me with your information, GOCOP77018@aol.com and I will try to get to HPD so it can be included in the city's numbers for the program. The techies among you can also post your party information on one of the neighborhood computer bulletin board sites.

GO Kids News

Tonya Knauth

Moms' Night Out for August will be a Game Night! It will be Thursday, August 9, 7 pm, at Jessica Modad's home, 1019 Gardenia. Bring cash for pizza and a bottle of wine, if you like.

The August Family Potluck date and location have not been set. Contact Tonya (below) for details in early August.

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 tknauth@houston.rr.com.

Wanted Block Captain's For:

- 3002-3218 Randall
- 700 & 800 blk. 32nd
- 3004 to 3010 N. Shep.
- 700 - 825 W. 34th
- 702 - 822 W. 32nd

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rstark@lucasgroup.com

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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.

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes

Thank you to all of those who continue to support the Constable Program through payment of supporter dues. You do make a difference in maintaining additional security in our neighborhood. Apologies go to anyone not recognized in last month's contributor list. Many of you stepped up to join the program after the request for additional funds was printed. The list of contributors is being updated and will be printed in future editions of the *Gazette*.

Garden Oaks welcomes Deputy Robert McLain who has filled the recently created night time/early morning constable patrol position. A profile and picture of Deputy McLain will be highlighted in the September edition of the *Gazette*. He is a graduate of Waltrip High School. Deputy McLain was trained by one of our former deputies, James Moncrief and Deputy Vest, our current daytime patrol. Deputy McLain will also join us at National Night Out August 7th.

A special thanks goes out to Precinct One Deputies Vest, Matthews, Sigue, Wooten and Thomas who were on hand to help with the July 4th Bicycle Parade. They made the difference in keeping the many participants safe!

Recent activities in the area have included an arrest of a suspect for burglary of a motor vehicle in Shepherd Park Plaza which likely has ties to prior break-ins in our area. Also a felony arrest was made following an unexpected chase in the neighborhood. Deputy Vest assisted federal marshals in apprehending this felon.

Please continue to make our neighborhood safer by supporting the constable program via the supporter sponsorship form in the *Gazette* or on the website at www.gardenoaks.org/resources/contributorform.pdf.

Constable Program benefits included in the \$140 per year donation.:

- 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!!!! Constable Dispatch at 713 755 7628. No matter the time of day. Your call could make the difference.

2007 June Stats.

Miles Patrolled 1225
Court Citations 9
Alarm Responses 2
Written Warnings 0
Vacations Watches 55
Suspicious Vehicles 5
Park checks 53
Criminal Offenses 4
Arrests 0

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Critter Corner

Casey and Mau Mau Farris

We all know that the “Dog Days” of summer occur during the hottest and muggiest part of the year but what does this really mean? Well, the meaning of this old saying takes us up to the stars. Speaking of stars, our pet of the month is a sparkler. Since it is the hottest time of year please pay attention to the pets and keep them cool and hydrated.

Pet of the Month: “Mr. August” is a shiny Sheltie named Nolan Beddow. He lives in Section III with his parents, Tina and John, and a very big black cat, named Bear. Nolan is very well adjusted and appears to have gone to obedience training. We think he must have “gotten out” and away from his first family and did not find his way back. He ended up at Sheltie Rescue where the Beddow’s met him at a picnic and adopted him last November. Nolan is very happy with his new family and his life in Garden Oaks. He is around two years old and full of pep. He likes to chew on rawhides, herd the cat, race around his big backyard, and take long walks through the neighborhood. He is incredibly clever, sweet and happy. Nolan radiates all things good! Nolan will light up your life!

Critters 101: The Dog Days of Summer

Everyone knows that the “dog days of summer” occur during the hottest and muggiest part of the year. Webster defines “dog days” as the period between early July and early September when the hot sultry weather of summer usually occurs in the northern hemisphere. But where does the term come from? Why do we call the hottest days of summer “dog days?”

In ancient times, when the night sky was unobscured by artificial lights, people drew images in the sky by connecting the dots of stars. These star pictures are now called constellations, and the constellations that are now mapped out in the sky come from our European ancestors.

They saw images of bears (Ursa Major and Ursa Minor), twins (Gemini), a bull (Taurus), and others, including dogs (Canis Major and Canis Minor). The brightest of the stars in Canis Major (the big dog) is Sirius, which also happens to be the brightest star in the night sky. It is so bright that the ancient Romans thought that the earth received heat from it.

During late July, the Dog Star rises and sets with the sun. They named this period of time, from 20 days before to 20 days after, “dog days” after the Dog Star. Today, dog days occur during the period between July 3 and August 11. Although, it is certainly the warmest period of the summer, the heat is not due to the added radiation from a far-away star, regardless of its brightness. No, the heat of summer is a direct result of the earth’s tilt.



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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: _____

Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

Cindy Bartos

Welcome:

President Sheila Briones called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 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.

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Beautification:** Brenda DeAlba mentioned improvements were needed to the Berm Park and suggested the residents of section 1A put out a collection bucket during National Night Out to collect money to help cover the cost of the work needed.
- **Constable Program:** Terry Jeanes was not present but sent a report read by Sheila Briones. The list of the Constable Program participants printed in the June Gazette was incomplete and an updated one will follow in a future Gazette. Terry Jeanes wanted to thank Constables Vest, Martin, Sigue, Wooten and Thomas for their help and participation in the June 30th Garden Oaks Bicycle Parade. The constable hired for night patrol, a newly added position as a result of a prior vote on the use of excess GOMO funds, will begin July 26th. Terry also reminded residents to use the Vacation Watch forms that are available on-line. Constable David Vest described 2 recent arrests in the neighborhood – one a burglary of a motor vehicle, and one with a felony warrant arrest. He stressed the importance of neighbors calling the constable's office to report any suspicious activity and again emphasized the importance of keeping vehicles locked, valuables out of sight, and parking closer to a residence.
- **Gazette:** Sue Schmidt was not present.
- **Garden Oaks Citizen Patrol:** Carl Waters stated there were 10 crimes reported in May, compared to 15 crimes reported in May 2006. He reminded members of the National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 7th and encouraged hosts of the event to set up a procedure to collect names

and contacts so a "neighbors' list" can be created and made available to the residents on the block.

- **Website:** Joe Muscara had no report.
- **Garden Oaks Home & Garden Tour:** Sheila announced that the Selection Committee is currently looking for homes and gardens to participate in the Tour of spring 2008.
- **Membership:** Dian Austin was not present. Oscar Ochoa was the winner of a \$25 Home Depot Gift Card raffle drawing. Carter's Grove Task Force: Shelly Rogers had no changes to report. Constable Vest mentioned that he cruises the area frequently.

SPARK Park: Emily Thomas was not present, but Sheila announced that the HISD School Board approved all of the improvement proposals.

Garden Club: Chris Lindsay was not present. Sheila reminded members that the Garden Club meets the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Garden Oaks Maintenance

Organization (GOMO): Ed DeAlba announced there would be a meeting following the Civic Club meeting if any one had brought plans to review.

Old business: President Briones announced that the Bike Parade was a success with about 200 participants. Council Member Toni Lawrence acted as the Grand Marshal and there was local evening news coverage of the event.

New Business: Sheila Briones announced that there will be no August Civic Club meeting due to the National Night Out event and encouraged members to participate in the events.

Garden Oaks resident Max Fisher introduced the guest speaker: Pat Waskoviak, Program Manager with the Houston-Galveston Area council who presented highlights of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan.

Meeting adjourned: 8:01 p.m.
Attendance: 28

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721 W. 41st St.	1043 Gardenia
750 W. 41st St.	839 Lamonte
818 W. 41st St.	3205 Lawrence
858 W. 41st St.	1325 Sue Barnett
862 W. 41st St.	1458 Sue Barnett
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Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome new neighbors who recently joined the neighborhood.

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706 West 39 th	802 West 32 nd
906 West 43 rd	954 West 43 rd
813 West 31 st	1038 West 41 st
536 West 32 nd	324 West 33 rd
816 West 32 nd	

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

August Celebrations

Birthdays:

Gracie Marie Mulry - 9th
 Warren Walden - 14th
 Trey Wood - 9th
 Matt Veech - 22nd
 Tony Padon - 23rd
 Bridgette Martinez - 26th
 Chris Schmidt - 27th
 Debbie Padon - 28th
 Emma Kathryn Carvell - 28th

Happy Anniversary :

Pat Buron & Shelly Rogers - 5th.

Trips, getaways and other happenings...

Linda Sparks had a recent stop in Fredericksburg and a brief visit to the gravesite of Lady Bird Johnson in Stonewall. **Terry Jeanes** enjoyed a bit of the old South in Natchez, Mississippi for the July 4th weekend.

Tina Rowe has been busy at Lake Conroe enjoying her new jet skis.

Patty Walters recently went to one of her favorite spots, Santa Fe, and is busy working on a new show called "Crossroads, Texas" which can be seen at Third Coast Comedy on West 34th in upcoming months. **Tina Sabuco** and **Shellye Arnold** have been enjoying their time in Wimberley at their *Abundance Retreat*.

Congratulations to **Brenda de Alba** on her recent 30 years with Exxon-Mobil. She and close friends, co-

workers, and relatives enjoyed a celebration at Rainbow Lodge.

Condolences to **Deputy David Vest** whose grandmother passed away recently and also to former Garden Oaks **Deputy Richard Smith** in the passing of his mother.

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

Garden Oaks Women Wanted Men Need Not Apply

With so many new residents to Garden Oaks in recent years, there is interest in forming a new neighborhood Women's Club.

Why you might ask? Because women like to get together to share ideas about food and fashion, gardening tips and flops, Beethoven and beehives, career opportunities and vacation getaways, girlfriends and mothers; chardonnay and cabernet, babies and babysitters, pedicures and piña coladas, trash and treasures, great books and romance novels, haircuts and high cuisine, PTAs and Pilates, manicures and margaritas.... and on and on.

Or maybe you would just like to make some new friends in the neighborhood! The reasons for a Garden Oaks "sisterhood" are many and the time is NOW.

Dea Larson has offered to host a "Wine and Cheese" organizational meeting at her home on Thursday, August 9th at 7:00pm. She lives at 823 Lamonte Lane. If you would like to help organize the group or would simply like to be a part of the fun, please email her at DeaLarson@aol.com or call her home at 281-920-0325 and leave a message. If you are unable to attend on August 9th, but are still interested, go ahead and let her know.

Stay tuned for more details in the September Gazette.



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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
4 1/5 x 2 3/8	\$75.00	\$405.00	\$765.00
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Scoop Du Jour

A little taste of things going on in the area! *Susan Kostelecky*

NEWS

Kaplan's Ben Hur has been torn down...a long time piece of Houston history is now gone forever.

SHOP!

Allure is a cute new shop at 1509 W. 34th Street, 713/686-2121.

www.allurehouston.com M-Sat 10-6. They have fun jewelry, women's clothing and home accessories at very reasonable prices. Also featuring a meeting room in the back, you can have parties, group shopping events, and other get togethers after hours and receive a shopping discount on your group's purchases! You can provide your own food and drink, or they can assist you in those services also.

Bead Atelier This great little bead shop has opened in the Garden Oaks shopping center at 3838 N. Shepherd. 713/862-1223.

www.beadatelier.com. M-Sat 11-6. Thursday 11-8. Sunday 1-5.

Wonderful selection of beads and findings in a funky, trendy environment. A meeting room in the back is available for classes and group events

Bungalow Antiques has opened at 872 W. 34th. 713/397-0926. Visit **www.BungalowAntiques.org** for

more information. Great antiques from several countries; large outdoor decorative pieces in a separate building on site; a meeting room for consultations with decorators. T - Sat 10-6.

Ella Nails has opened in the Domino's shopping center at W. 43rd and Ella. 4208-G Ella Blvd. 713/812-9198 M-Sat 9-7. Sunday 12-6. Walk in service available. Clean and friendly, this new shop offers waxing, manicures, pedicures and more. Five massaging spa pedicure chairs. Ask for a frequent shopper card; get \$10 off your tenth service.

YUM!

Sugarbaby's Cupcake Boutique is now open at 3310 S. Shepherd, between Richmond and W. Alabama 713/527-8427

www.ilovesugarbabys.com Tues-Sat. 10-6. The lime green, hot pink, black and white accents are the icing on the cake in this great new shop.

Fresh cupcakes are made daily in a variety of flavors (pina colada cupcakes with a paper umbrella in each!) Buy a few cupcakes and then saunter over to the sprinkles bar to select your choice (s) to sprinkle on top. A nice selection of gifts (prettily boxed teas, cookies, candy, cards). Dine in on one of the dozen tables or takeout. Special orders available.

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The 2007 Bicycle Parade





August 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	National Night Out	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Deadline for Gazette Submissions	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	First Day of School HISD	28	29	30	31	

Useful Numbers

All City Services (city information or services ranging from traffic court dates and sewer concerns to pothole problems and neighborhood complaints) **311**

Emergency Services **911**

Constable Precinct 1 Dispatch **713-755-7628**

HPD Non Emergency Services **713-884-3131**

One Call Program (Heavy trash and more) **713-956-6589**

Recycling Hotline **713-837-9130**

Deeds Restriction Violations City of Houston Legal Department **713-247-2000**

Toni Lawrence (District A) **713-247-2010**

Dwayne Bohac **713-460-2800**

John Whitmire **713-864-8701**

August 7th

