garden oaks GAZETTE

VOLUME 33

ISSUE 9

2010 Home Tour

The excitement continues and plans are being drawn up for the 2010 Garden Oaks Home Tour, the largest fundraising event for our civic club. In previous years, the success of the home tour has helped in funding the beautification committee, Constable Patrol, the *Gazette*, Cat Catchers and donations to Garden Oaks Elementary and the Rick Englert SPARK Park.

It is a fun-filled weekend that starts with a Saturday evening preview party in honor of our many generous sponsors and gracious homeowners, followed the next day by the home tour and ends with a celebration for all of the volunteers who make this worthy cause happen. Of course, it doesn't hurt that we spruce up the yards, roll out the welcome mat and show all of Houston just what Garden Oaks has to offer!

The selection committee, chaired by Susan Kostelecky, has begun previewing homes under consideration for the 2010 Home Tour. So many wonderful homes have been nominated, it will be hard to narrow it down to the six homes and three gardens that will ultimately be showcased. The final selections will be announced in the November *Gazette* so stay tuned!

A theme contest is in place and time is drawing near for a final decision. This is the final month for your Home Tour theme suggestions to be submitted so get busy and "brand" next year's event! Send all submissions to hometour@gardenoaks.org. The winner will receive a \$100 gift card. Past themes have included Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (2004), Pathways Thru the Oaks (2006) and Through the Garden Gate (2008). Get those creative juices flowing and enter by September 30, 2009, to see if a \$100 gift card is in your future!

Continued on page 5



SEND IN YOUR IDEAS FOR THE 2010 HOME AND GARDEN TOUR THEME Winner gets a \$100 gift card. Send suggestions to: hometour@gardenoaks.org DEADLINE SEPT 30th

DAYTIME CIVIC CLUB CONSTABLE IN DANGER OF CANCELLATION DUE TO FUNDS SHORTAGE.

YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED NOW! See article enclosed

SEPT 2009

CIVIC CLUB MEETINGS

September 1 Civic Club Meeting Meet the Candidates Night Come hear from candidates from the City of Houston mayor's race and candidates for City Council District A.

Meetings are held at Garden Oaks Elementary on the first Tuesday of the month at 7p.m.

REMINDERS

October 6, 2009 National Night Out. October 10, 2009 Wine Walk 6-8 p.m. October 21, 2009 GOMO Anual Meeting.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Gazette Block Captains needed for: 200/300 blocks of W. 30th, 31st and 34th. If interested please call 713.691.6505.

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CITIZEN'S PATROL

by Carl Waters, Jr.

Last month when I went to the Houston Police Department website I discovered the usual charting format had changed into an interactive map. By going to http://mycity.houstontx.gov/crime, you can check crime statistics by block, by police beat, police district, police division, zip code, city council district, super neighborhood or for the entire city for the previous 24 hours, the previous week or the previous month.

National Night Out is October 6 so start planning your block parties now. Please contact me if you would like to a police officer stop by your party.

June Crime Statistics: 5

Assault: 1 3000 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Sunday, June 14th at 10:40 p.m. (restaurant parking lot).

Burglary: 2 800 block of W. 41st St. on Monday, June

Garden Oaks Gazette

The Garden Oaks *Gazette* is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published on a monthly basis. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted. **No exceptions.**

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.

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Carol Smith, John Tyler and Dian Austin

200 block of W. 31st St. on Friday, June 19th at 1:20 p.m. (residence).

Burglary of a Motor Vehicle: 1 700 block of W. 38th St. on Monday, June 1st at 10:00 p.m. (driveway).

Auto Theft: 1

2900 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Friday, June 12th at 8:00 p.m. (parking lot).

July Crime Statistics: 6

Burglary: 5

800 block of W. 41st St. on Wednesday, July 1st at 9:30 a.m. (residence).
700 block of Sue Barnett on Tuesday, July 7th at 8:00 a.m. (residence).
700 block of W. 43rd St. on Friday, July 24th at 3:30 p.m. (residence).
700 block of W. 41st St. on Monday, July 27th at 7:00 p.m. (residence).
800 block of W. 42nd St. on Monday, July 27th at 7:45 p.m. (driveway)

Auto Theft: 1 700 block of W. 39th St. on Monday, July 6th at 5:34 a.m. (school). In June and July of last year 11 crimes were reported each month for a total of 50 for the year. This year only 35 crimes have been listed on HPD website for 30% reduction of reported crime in the neighborhood.

Inquiries 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.

Emergency Numbers

Emergency Services 911 HPD Non-Emergency Services 713.884.3131 Constable Dispatch 713.755.7628 All Other City Services 311

Civic Club Officers

Scott Easterly—President 761 W. 42nd 713.691.3087 president@gardenoaks.org Ivan Mayers—Vice President 802 Lamonte 713.202.7113 vicepresident@gardenoaks.org Phil Ramirez—Treasurer

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Standing Committee Chairs Brenda de Alba—Beautification

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Terry JeanesConstable Program922 W. 41st713.812.9154constable@gardenoaks.org

HEARD UNDER THE OAK TREE

by Terry Jeanes

Welcome New Neighbors

Congratulations on joining us. We hopeto see you at a civic club meeting soon.722 West 38th915 West 42nd1586 Sue Barnett224 West 34th1014 Lamonte714 Sue Barnett215 West 33rd

August Birthdays Janice Walden 4th Mark Swick 26th

Happy Anniversary Trent & Megan Salch 5th Craig & Clair Bell 14th Rick & Tonya Knauth 29th Happy belated anniversary to Sarah McGee Heath & Corey Heath at the end of July.

Out and About

Garden Oaks residents were busy hitting the road in August. **Blanche Ragsdale** visited family in Georgia. **George Appling & Brian O'Leary** and daughter **Arya** joined family and friends tubing on a recent trip to New Braunfels. Brian also traveled to a cousin's wedding in Nashville. **Carey Berry** visited Utah and Wyoming. **Tina Parks Rowe** experienced the world's longest garage sale. **Chris** & **Elizabeth Wibner** and their girls spent an extended weekend at the river tubing and kayaking. **Jessica** & **Eric Jarvis** took a road trip up to Ohio to visit family.

We like the road trips. It allows us to see family and see the countryside!

More travels include **Art & Chris Lindsay** who enjoyed New Orleans and the Monteleon Hotel, and **Dian Austin & Sandy Altman** traveled to Nova Scotia. **Janna Alsobrook** and **Caroline Stender** are headed to Paris in September.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, contact Terry Jeanes at 713.812.9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com.







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Lori Kennedy (2009) **Secretary** Home: 713.691.6833 750 Sue Barnett Dr. lorikgomo@blue-funk.com

Section 3:

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Section 5:

Tim Weltin (2011) **Vice President** Home: 713.540.5315 1567 Sue Barnett Drive timweltin@mycase.info

John Ciccarelli (2009) Home: 713.688.8285 4310 Apollo ciccarelli@intergate.com

Terms expire October of year in parentheses.

GOMO UPDATE by Ed de Alba

Annual Meeting to be Held October 21 The GOMO annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21, at Garden Oaks Elementary at 7:00p.m. The business to be transacted will include the election of several directors and voting on the spending of surplus funds.

Director Positions Open

Section 1

Two positions will open in Section 1. Graham Gips recently transferred to Lagos, Nigeria, and his position is currently open. The term for this position ends in 2010. The term of the position currently held by Kathy Horner ends October 31. The term for this position runs through October 2012. If you are interested in running for one of these seats, specify which term you are running for.

Section 2

The term of the position held by Lori Kennedy ends October 31. The term for this position will run through October of 2012. In last month's article I incorrectly stated that my own term ended this next October 31.

Section 3

The term of the position currently held by Ivan Mayers ends October 31. The term for this position will run through October 2012.

Section 5

•

Two director positions will open in Section 5. The term for the seat held by John Ciccarelli ends October 31. The term for this position runs through October of 2012. The term for the position formerly held by Mitch Katine ends in 2010. Mitch stepped down earlier this year because of conflicting time commitments. If you are interested in running for one of these seats, specify which term you are running for.

Please contact any of the GOMO directors listed in the Gazette if you are interested in running for any of the open positions.

The Requirements of the Positions Are:

- Must be 18 years or older
- Must own property and live within the Garden Oaks Section for the Director's

position that you are volunteering to stand election for

- All property owned in Garden Oaks must be in compliance with the Garden Oaks Deed Restrictions, excluding violations that existed before your ownership of the property
- If no Member residing in the Section stands for election, then a Member who is an owner in that Section, but lives in another Section, may stand for election as a "Non-Section Director", whose term is 1 year
- Must sign a statement attesting to the above

Surplus Funds

GOMO has surplus funds available for disbursement this next fiscal year.

GOMO currently supports two constable patrols in Garden Oaks, spending on neighborhood greenspaces and neighborhood infrastructure. If you have a proposal for a neighborhood improvement project, please submit your ideas to any GOMO director or to gomo@gardenoaks.org.

Funds not spent or not committed to be spent within the fiscal year beginning November 1, 2008, will be returned to the general fund.

2008 Audit Completed

The audit for the 2008 fiscal year was presented at our July business meeting by Patrick Durio of Durio and Company, P.C. GOMO is in good standing and in a solid financial position. All members will receive a copy in the October newsletter. The audit results also are available on the GOMO Web site.

An Open Invitation to our Meetings We would like to invite all GOMO Members to all of 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. Because of this, 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 at 7:00 p.m., on every third Wednesday of the month at our business meeting held at the GOMO Office, Garden Oaks Professional Building, 4001 N. Shepherd, Suite 216. You are welcome to attend, make suggestions, propose ideas, ask questions, clarify rumors or simply observe the process.



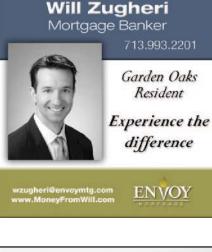
2010 HOME TOUR continued from page 1

We are looking for many helping hands to both chair and fill several key committees. No experience needed. We have many volunteers that have made it happen in the past who are more than willing to share their experiences and lend a hand. It is a great way to meet neighbors and have a truly fun, rewarding experience that benefits our neighborhood.

Of most urgent need is a preview party chair (or two) and a co-chair for the auction committee. Dian Austin, beyond stepping up to co-chair the tour itself, generously has offered to co-chair the auction. Both of these committees are crucial to the success of the event. Several other key areas need leadership, so contact Dian Austin at 713.691.6505 or Sue Schmidt at 832.563.3402 if you are interested in joining a committee or volunteering. For sponsorship information, contact Susan Kostelecky at 713.697.4110.

As the fall season nears, committee meetings will begin and planning will continue for what we hope to be the most successful Garden Oaks Home Tour ever. We look forward to many new faces joining us to showcase the wonderful neighborhood we all call home. Come join the fun and volunteer today!

Please see page 14 for the 2010 Home Tour Executive Committee list including open positions.









GAZETTE BLOCK CAPTAIN OF THE MONTH

by Dian Austin

September's *Gazette* Block Captain of the Month couldn't wait to move back to Garden Oaks. Ray Trantham first lived in Section 1 for five years in the 1980s. His job took him to California and then to the Middle East for several years. When Ray returned to Houston, he moved straight back to Garden Oaks, and one of the first things he did was answer the call to be a *Gazette* block captain. Ray now lives in the 900 block of W. 41st and delivers *Gazettes* to that block and has for several years.

Ray faithfully attends civic club meetings, helps with beautification workdays and assists during the Home Tour. Ray also is one of the table sponsors for the upcoming Wine Walk. His group is the Wineaux.

Ray loves playing cards, listening to jazz and attending live stage productions. He also spends a lot of time keeping his yard immaculate. Ray first found out about Garden Oaks through an ad in the Leader, and he's been hooked ever since. He loves the large lots, all the trees and the fabulous neighbors. And he says you've never seen heat until you've lived in the Middle East!

Ray loves giving back to Garden Oaks and for his continued *Gazette* diligence, he wins a \$25 gift certificate to Tony's Mexican Restaurant, courtesy of OD's Printing (Oscar Ochoa). Thanks, Ray!

If anyone wants to join the great *Gazette* delivery team, call Dian at 713.691.6505. If you'd like to nominate your block captain for the monthly prize, call or email me at fallingwatert@yahoo.com. If your Gazette is not being delivered on time, please let me know too!



QUIET ZONE UPDATE

The City of Houston has realized cost savings and obtained additional funding for some Quiet Zones so they have been able to start work on additional Quiet Zones.

by Scott Easterly

The Garden Oaks Quiet Zone is progressing and we want your input.

A group of residents from Garden Oaks, Oak Forest and Shepherd Forest have joined together to petition for a train Quiet Zone in our area. A Quiet Zone is an area where train operators can not sound the train horn unless there is an emergency or imminent safety risk. Additional safety measures are installed at train crossings within the Quiet Zone to overcome any additional risk posed by silencing the train horn. A Quiet Zone in our area will improve quality of life, increase safety at rail crossings and increase property values in several neighborhoods in our area.

The Garden Oaks Quiet Zone has actually been renamed as '34th St. Corridor QuietZone' since it runs through neighborhoods other than just Garden Oaks.

An application for a '34th St Corridor Quiet Zone' is pending with the City of Houston. The Quiet Zone would run from Cornell near Main to West TC Jester and will affect several neighborhoods including Garden Oaks, Oak Forest, Shepherd Forest, Independence Heights and Shady Acres. Other communities such as West U, Bellaire and River Oaks have established Quiet Zones in their areas.

If the Quiet Zone is approved it will run from T.C. Jester to North Main. The Train will not blow its horn throughout the entire zone, not just at the closed cross streets. Other safety measures will be added which will make those open crossings safer and upgraded to meet Federal standards and eliminate the Federal laws requiring the horn to be blown. Our chances of our Quiet Zone being approved and funded this year are much better than previously thought. To make this a reality, it may be necessary to close some streets at the railroad crossings. This will reduce the cost of implementing the Quiet Zone.

The two possible closures that would impact us most are at Golf and Brinkman.

Any closures will result in the streets being turned into cul-de-sacs near the tracks. The City of Houston will hold public hearings but wants to know the neighborhood's pulse and support or opposition that those most affected feel.

Our neighbors closest to the tracks are most affected by noise. Closures also reduce drive through traffic and increase safety.

Check out www.34thquietzone.com for details and learn how you can help support this effort and to get full details.

Please email your comments ASAP to: president@gardenoaks.org



For more information visit www.34thquietzone.com

GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS

President Chris Lindsay 713.819.8412 1st Vice President Janet Cones 713.822.2532 2nd Vice President Trish Merkham 713.688.4008 Treasurer Robert DeVeau 832.659.7797 Co-Secretaries Cathy Wahren 713.686.8686 Mary Lynn Porter



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| 436 W. 30th St. | 870 W. 42nd St. |
| 516 W. 30th St. | 823 W. 43rd St. |
| 531 W. 32nd St. | 1026 Althea |
| 524 W. 34th St. | 1030 Althea |
| 527 W. 34th St. | 815 Azalea |
| 729 W. 39th St. | 975 Gardenia |
| 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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Pictured above is the group of friends who gathered to dedicate the new rock bench in Triangle Park that was generously donated by Tina Sabuco and Shellye Arnold to memorialize Tina's mother, Evie Sabuco. At right from top right: Lily and Jones Bowman enjoy the new boulder; Tina and Evie enjoying the old bench; and Tina and Shellye with Elvis and Seymour.

THIEVES STRIKE TRIANGLE PARK

by Ed & Brenda de Alba

Sometime during the weekend of August 1, one of our concrete benches was stolen from the Triangle Park at Alba and Azalea. Why, why, why do some people feel they are entitled to steal what is not theirs?

Tina Sabuco and Shellye Arnold, who live on Azalea across from the park, viewed this theft as an opportunity to make a gift to the park and memorialize Tina's mother, Evie Sabuco, who passed away July 4. Before her death Evie often sat on the bench with Tina and Shellye. One Easter she dressed up in a bunny suit and handed out treats.

Sharing was important to Evie and so Tina felt replacing the stolen bench with a "way cool" boulder would be an opportunity to create a sharing experience with Garden Oaks and her immediate neighbors.

Those of you acquainted with Tina know she's a woman of action and things happen quickly once she makes a decision. So the search for the perfect boulder soon began. Tina and Shellye selected a large, long, moss-rock boulder shaped like a snake, a creature Evie found fascinating. The boulder was installed in the park five days after the bench was stolen. A small band of friends joined Tina and Shellye on Sunday, August 9, to dedicate Evie's Rock including Tina Nieto, Georgia Lister, Hal Bowman, Lily Bowman, Jones Bowman, Ed and Brenda de Alba, Elvis, Seymour and Bella.









BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE *by Brenda & Ed de Alba*

We had a really good and in depth tree and shrub presentation at our August Civic Club meeting. Heidi Sheesley, owner of Treesearch Farms, shared some valuable and interesting information on many "not-your-everyday" trees and shrubs which could be used to replace trees and other plantings destroyed or damaged by Hurricane Ike. Those in attendance were left with an appreciation for the passion Heidi brings to educating the public on less common plants that not only do well, but thrive in our difficult climate. If you didn't attend don't despair, the pictures and handouts she presented are posted on the Garden Oaks Website courtesv of our webmaster, Joe Muscara, All of the plant material Heidi discussed is available through local nurseries in the Heights. Joshua Kornegay, owner of Joshua's Native Plants, hand selects plants on a weekly basis from Treesearch Farms. If he doesn't have a particular plant or tree in stock, he will find it for you.

The Garden Oaks Boulevard esplanade received its quarterly maintenance in late July. Boulevard plans this fall include supplementing the existing trees with some featured in Heidi's talk. Plans include creating rose beds at the western end and planting many of the Old Blush roses recently donated by Heidi to the neighborhood. Other fall plans include adding more understory flowering trees to the Rose Garden, W. 34th and Lawrence, and trimming selected trees. Call us if you'd like to help out, 713.694.5934.





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CONSTABLE PROGRAM Urgent: Shortage of funds puts daytime deputy out at the end of September

by Terry Jeanes & Susan Love – Saranie

It is short and simple — we need fund now. Funds currently are available to keep Garden Oaks daytime deputy through the end of September. We are short of fulfilling the commitment through November and need your immediate help.

If you are not a member, please join immediately. Urge your neighbors to sign up. Garden Oaks crime statistics have be declining with our program's existence and the increased coverage of our deputies. For the safety of the community please join us today. Your support will make a difference.

The form can be found at www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/ ContributorForm2009.pdf.

In addition, well wishes to Deputy CJ Mangano recovering from knee surgery. Precinct One Constable Dispatch 713.755.7628

July 2009 Statistics

Miles Patrolled 2081 Court citations 0 Alarm responses 7 Written warnings 0 Vacations watches 12 Suspicious vehicles 5 Park check 111 Criminal offenses 0

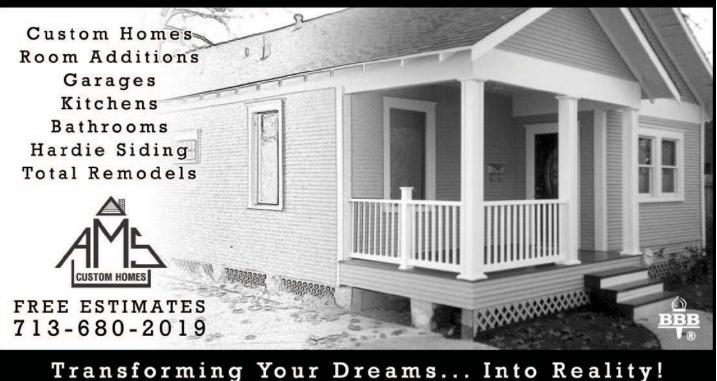
Arrests 0

GARDEN OAKS OUTREACH

a classified listing

Classified Ads are \$20 per run for residents, and are for personal services only (help wanted, items for sale, infant care needed, etc.). Contact the Gazette Advertising Director for more information.

AMS REMODELING



GO KIDS NEWS

by Sarah Heath

Happy September! I hope all of your kids are getting settled into a back-to-school routine and life is returning to normal in all your households!

Potluck Gathering

Thanks to everyone who attended the GO Kids Back to School Wet & Wild Potluck. An extra-special thank you goes to Lucinda, Lee and Reid Kurtas for sharing their home. We had a great time! If you weren't able to make it we hope to see you at our next potluck gathering. Stay tuned for more details!

Playgroup

The GO Kids All-ages Playgroup has made a few changes. Starting August 28 we will be meeting every Friday at 10:00 a.m. at Candlelight Park, 1520 Candlelight Lane. Please keep in mind that Garden Oaks Elementary starts back to school on August 24. Technically the SPARK Park is closed to the public during school hours. Realizing how important our SPARK Park is to our neighborhood the principal at GOES, Ms. Pollock, graciously will allow the park to be open to the community from 9-10 a.m., M-F, during school hours. Please respect the following guidelines:

- 1) Please sign in at the office during school hours.
- Please stay directly in the playground area during school hours. The playing fields, jogging trails, etc are off limits.
- If the park is being used by GOES teachers and school children please do not disturb their classes. It would be best to come back another day.
- 4) Absolutely no dogs!

Thank you for your cooperation! I know we all want to enjoy our neighborhood park but we have to remember it's a big part of the school kids' day as well.

Mom's Night Out

Ready for a fun and exciting Moms' Night Out? This month we'll be meeting at Plonk Beer & Wine Bistro, corner of 43rd and Ella, on Tuesday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact Maricela Pina at pinamaricela@ yahoo.com. Hope to see you there!

Bouncy House

The GO Kids new and improved Bouncy House has arrived. A big thank you to everyone who donated funds and especially to Selena Crochet and Catlin Tucker for getting this effort organized so guickly! You can reserve the Bouncy House through the GO Kids Yahoo Calendar. Make sure you contact Catlin several days before your event. We all lead busy lives and we'd hate for the Bouncy House to be locked in someone's garage during a party! And please take care of and follow the Bouncy House rules. We're hoping this one will last a little longer than our last two! Contact Catlin Tucker at 713.206.6575 for more information.

Dinner Drop

Are you or someone you know an overwhelmed, sleep deprived new parent? Take heart because help is on the way! We are happy to provide several meals to new families during those stressful few weeks. If you are expecting or know a neighbor who is, contact our Dinner Drop coordinator, Amber Berend at amber.berend@ yahoo.com and she'll set you right up.

GO Kids was started by a group of parents who wanted to build a familyfriendly neighborhood where children and parents know each other and grow together. All Garden Oaks families are welcome. Not on the GO Kids list serve? Want more information about GO Kids? Contact Sarah Heath at 713.812.1355 or sarahmheath@gmail.com.



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HEAVY TRASH DETAILS *by Dian Austin*

Each month questions are posted on the GO Listserv regarding what can be put out for heavy trash and when.

In 2009, the City of Houston decided that residents may dispose of their tree waste and junk waste in alternating months. The goal is to increase the amounts of recycled materials, save landfill space and cost less.

For the balance of the year, heavy trash pick-ups are scheduled on the appropriate Tuesday of the month, which varies in GO sections.

September 2009 — Tree Waste ONLY October 2009 — Junk Waste November 2009 — Tree Waste ONLY December 2009 — Junk Waste Tree waste is accepted in any month but is only recycled in the specific tree waste month. Tree waste is defined as "clean" wood waste such as tree limbs, branches and stumps not lumber, furniture or treated wood. So, if you can schedule your pruning for a tree waste month, none of your branches, etc. should be headed for the landfill but will instead be recycled. Tree waste does not have to be bagged; it can be stacked neatly and will be picked up.

Junk Waste is accepted only in the months designated for junk waste. Junk waste is defined as furniture, appliances or other large items but not roofing shingles, plaster, bricks or concrete.

Heavy trash can be put out legally street side/curbside at 6 p.m. the Friday before your scheduled heavy trash Tuesday.

More info can be found at www.houstontx.gov.

2009 - 2010 Bi-Weekly Recycling Schedule TUESDAY B Schedule

Your scheduled recycling collection day is shown in green. Circled dates are city holidays. Check your local newspaper or visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org for possible changes due to the holiday collection schedule.

Placement Time: Out by 7am, in by 10pm (on your collection day)

| | | Ju | ily 20 | 009 | | | | | Aug | ust 2 | 009 | | | | S | epte | mbe | r 200 | 9 | |
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GO SISTERHOOD vaste is defined as such as tree limbs, sos not lumber, wood. So, if you Hard to believe 12 mont

Hard to believe 12 months have passed since Hurricane Ike blew through town! Fortunately the neighborhood has recovered nicely in the past year so it is time to celebrate. Please join the Garden Oaks Sisterhood's September meeting on Thursday, September 17, at The Petrol Station, 985 Wakefield from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. We will share news from the summer and plans for the fall.

The Garden Oaks Sisterhood welcomes all women from the neighborhood — newcomers as well as old timers! We meet on the third Thursday of the month. For more information, contact Dea Larson at dealarson@aol.com or 713.695.3634.



Recyclable Materials Accepted in the Curbside Program

Mail, Envelopes Home Office Paper

- No dark colored or decorative papers
- No foil packaging
- Aluminum, Tin, Steel & Empty Aerosol Cans
- Rinse & drain
- Labels are okay
 Place lids inside larger
- containers
- No coat hangers

Newspapers, Magazines, Catalogs, Telephone Books

 Loose dry & unsoiled
 Remove plastic wrapping, rubber bands

Flattened, Corrugated Cardboard Flatten to a maximum of

- 3 feet on each side No food, pizza or
- cereal boxes
 No beverage cartons, gift boxes, styrofoam, peanuts or packing material

Used Motor Oil

- Drain into original container
 Clean, non-chemical!
- non-detergent screwtop container okay
- 2 gallon limit per collection
 No empty used oil containers
- No anti-freeze liquid or containers accepted
- Now Accepting Plastics #1-#5; #7 Items. The Following Categories Only (Please Rinse & Drain):

Plastic Bottles, Jars, Jugs, Tubs & Lids: milk, water, juice, soft drink, beer, salad dressing, condiments, cooking oil, sauces, squeezable bottles & jars; laundry & dishwashing detergent, medicine, mouthwash, cosmetic & shampoo bottles; cat litter jugs; yogurt, butter, margarine, ice cream (tubs & lids): coffee can lids.

Plastic Items Not Accepted: All #6 plastics (including Styrofoam), plastic bags, packaging material, meat & food trays, food wrap, toys and furniture.

Note: No glass or plastic bags accepted in the curbside program. On windy days, secure recycling materials by placing full sacks of paper on top of bin. Visit our website at: www.houstonsolidwaste.org, or call the Houston Service Helpline (3-1-1) for more solid waste info.

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Please support our advertisers who in turn support our neighborhood. Tell them you saw their ad in the *Gazette*!

Parents remember to bring your children to the Civic Club meetings for fun activities and child care with Hannah Stanchi.

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GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

August 4, 2009 by Cindy Bartos, Secretary

Welcome

President Scott Easterly called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Scott welcomed and recognized new attendees. Jeff Downing, candidate for City Council District A, was in attendance and gave a brief introduction.

Treasurer's Report

Phil Ramirez presented the current income and expense report for the civic club and had detailed copies available. Phil announced that we have enough funding to pay for the Constable Program through September.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the July minutes as they appeared in the *Gazette*.

Standing Committee Reports

Garden Oaks Citizen Patrol: Carl Waters reported on an interactive map available on the HPD Web site that reports crimes in a given area within a given time: http://mycity. houstontx.gov/crime/optionPage. aspx. According to the map, Garden Oaks had 5 crimes reported in June (compared to 11 in June 2008) and 6 crimes reported in July (compared to 11 in July 2008) for a year-to-date total of 35 as compared to 50 in 2008. National Night Out is October 6, 2009. Let Carl know if you would like to have a police officer come by your block party. If anyone is interested in training for the Garden Oaks Citizen Patrol program, contact Sergeant Escobedo at the North Division Substation for a schedule Beautification: Brenda de Alba reported on the recent theft of a concrete bench at the Triangle Park. Tina Sabuco and Shellye Arnold are donating a large rock as a replacement and as a memorial to the passing of Tina's mom, Evie Sabuco.

- *Gazette*: Scott Easterly reported for Jessica Jarvis her request to have articles submitted as early as possible for the September Gazette.
- Garden Oaks.org Web site: no report
- Home Tour: Scott suggested that those interested in volunteering for the event to contact Dian Austin or Sue Schmidt.

Garden Oaks Garden Club

Chris Lindsay announced the next meeting will be August 13 at the Kroger's Community Room, 7:00 p.m. The program will be on bromeliads.

Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO)

Ed de Alba and the GOMO committee will meet after the civic club meeting with anyone wanting to discuss construction plans. The annual meeting will be October 21, 2009, at Garden Oaks Elementary School. If you have a suggestion for a use of the surplus GOMO funds, write a description with an approximate price and submit it to a GOMO Board member.

Program

Brenda de Alba introduced Heidi Sheesley of Treesearch Farms. Heidi's presentation entitled "Trees and Shrubs – Ike Replacements" provided many and varied ideas for residents to consider with their landscaping. The presentation and a copy of the handout will be available on the Garden Oaks Web site: www.gardenoaks.org

Old Business

President Easterly announced the acquisition of the HOK Planning Group to assist, pro bono, in the design and development of the planned fence around the SPARK Park.

Quiet Zone: President Easterly attended a meeting with members from Transtar and the Houston Public Works and Transportation Department. Garden Oaks is part of the "34th Street Corridor" Quiet Zone project. Five streets are being considered for closure at their intersection with the railroad tracks as part of this project: Golf, Brinkman, Cortland, Cornell and Oak Forest. The Houston Fire Department will be contacted concerning the viability of closing the streets followed by community meetings to get feedback on the street closures. Contact Scott if you would like to be involved with the 34th Street Corridor project.

Chris Lindsay had the maps provided by the City of Houston Public Works Department available for attendees to write on, indicating drainage and/or ponding issues within the neighborhood. She will send the maps back to the Luis Guido, Public Works Maintenance Manager. Chris will serve as the contact person with the Harris County Flood Control District in their efforts to work on the drainage ditches along the railroad.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55 p.m. Attendance: 35

2010 Garden Oaks Home & Garden Tour 2010 Executive Committee

Sue Schmidt, Dian Austin - 2010 Home Tour Co-Chair Sandy Altman - Command Center John & Tina Beddow - Publicity Jerry Butler & Kelly Mathews -Concessions Ed DeAlba - Transportation Jan Forster - Graphics Jessica Jarvis - Docent Scripts Susan Kostelecky - Selection/ Sponsorhip **Dian Austin - Silent/Live Auction** Brian O'Leary and George Appling -Volunteer Party Todd and Nelda Prince - Set Up Susan Saranie - Finance

Co-Chairs needed - Preview Party Chair needed - Florist Chair Needed - Communication Co-Chair Needed - Silent/Live Auction Chair Needed - Posters Chair Needed - Pre-Tour ticket sales Chair Needed - Volunteers

PHOTO OF THE MONTH **Oscar Mayer Wienermobile**





Sandy Altman and Dian Austin enjoyed a photo op with the Wienermobile on its recent stop in Houston.

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WINE WALK IS COMING **SOON!**

by Dian Austin

What better way to usher in the fall weather (fingers crossed!) than to stroll around a beautifully landscaped backyard, taste some different wines and mingle with your neighbors, all in support of the constable program?

The rescheduled Wine Walk, now a private party, will be held on Saturday, October 10, from 6-8 p.m. in the lushly landscaped backyard of Brenda and Ed de Alba, 744 W. 43rd.

We currently have 11 table sponsors,

each prepared to give you a different "taste" of "Wines of the World \$20 and under." Wines will be served in a commemorative wine glass underwritten by Terry Jeanes.

Table sponsors include: GoRead Book Club The Wineaux Wino Witches of 42nd Street The Perfectly Aged Group The D.I.D. Wine Club Facundo Home Builders Sue Schmidt/Keller Williams Metropolitan Chris Schmidt/SCM Construction Peggy McClard Antiques

Brian Dupnick Debbie Johns Alisha and Jason Cunningham

Sponsors/underwriters for the event include monetary contributions from: Terry Jeanes, Re/Max Metro Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic Linda Sparks Ed and Brenda de Alba

If you would like to get on the waiting list, please email me at FallingwaterT@yahoo.com. Don't forget to put October 10 on your calendar!

SEPTEMBER 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------|----------|
| | | 1 Civic Club mta 7pm | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 GO Kids MNO 7pm, Plonk! | 16 GOMO mtg 7:30pm | 17 GO Sisterhood 7:30pm, The Petrol Station | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

