# GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

### **VOLUME 33**

# Natíonal Níght Out



Neighbors gathered together throughout Garden Oaks to celebrate National Night Out on October 6



to celebrate National Night Out on October 6. Many thanks to those who hosted a block party and those who shared their photos.









# **NOV 2009**

**ISSUE 11** 

# CIVIC CLUB MEETINGS

**November 3 Civic Club Meeting** Meetings are held at Garden Oaks

Elementary on the first Tuesday of the month at 7p.m.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Gazette Block Captain Needed 200/300 W. 31st

Welcome New Block Captains: Jackie O'Brien: 200/300 W. 30th. Thanks to Gale Gorman for covering this route until we got a replacement!

Elizabeth Klein: 200/300 W. 34th. Thanks and best wishes to Craig Lee, former block captain, who will be moving from Garden Oaks.

Marlene Caldwell: 1400 block Sue Barnett. Thanks to Joyce Evans who was previously delivering that route.

### REMINDERS

Be sure to check for the recent Civic Club and Constable membership mailout and complete your forms today!

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

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# HEARD UNDER THE OAK TREE

by Terry Jeanes

### **Welcome New Neighbors**

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

 811 Azalea
 4203 Apollo

 1027 West 43rd
 1031 Althea

 1070 Lamonte
 978 Althea

 907 West 42nd
 4215 Apollo

 331 West 34th
 319 West 31st

 3310 Lawrence
 954 Althea

### **November Birthdays**

Stacy Collins Gross 2<sup>nd</sup> Katie Swick 4<sup>th</sup> Holly Veech 8<sup>th</sup> Anthony Neiser 10<sup>th</sup> Caroline Padon 12<sup>th</sup> Sheila Briones 14<sup>th</sup> Maggie Veech 18<sup>th</sup> Kit Schoenfield 23<sup>rd</sup> Lucy McLean25<sup>th</sup> Cheryl Cohorn 28<sup>th</sup> Megan Salch 29<sup>th</sup>

# 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 and Dian Austin

### Happy Anniversary

Mark & Katie Swick 10<sup>th</sup> Plus belated anniversary wishes to Holly & Matt Veech 10/14 and to Elizabeth & Mark Klein 10/7

### Welcome Home

**Mel Johnson**, who has returned from the UK, where she has been on assignment and taking care of her ill mother for the past 10 months; her mother passed away earlier this summer. Hubby **Ken** and daughter **Elizabeth** are ecstatic that Mummy is home.

An additional warm welcome home goes out to **Kip** and **Kari Noser** and their daughter **Megan** on their return from assignment in the Netherlands.

### In memoriam

Vance Gabryswski and Susan Taylor. Each of these Garden Oaks neighbors passed away in the month of October. Warm thoughts go out to each of their families. **Condolences** are expressed to **Linda Sparks** on the passing of her dog, Max, to **Chris** & **Art Lindsay** on the passing of their dog, Friday and to **Ed** & **Brenda de Alba** on the loss of their dog, Clyde.

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

# **Terry Jeanes** Your Neighbor & Area Specialist

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# Civic Club Officers

761 W. 42nd	713.691.3087
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802 Lamonte	713.202.7113
	vicepresident@gardenoaks.org
Phil Ramirez—	Treasurer
975 Lamonte	832.794.1221
	treasurer@gardenoaks.org
	-

Cindy Bartos—Secretary 831 Azalea 713.694.6697 secretary@gardenoaks.org

# Standing Committee Chairs

Brenda de Alba	—Beautification
744 W. 43rd	713.694.5934
	beautification@gardenoaks.org
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821 W. 31st	713.864.1992
	gocop@gardenoaks.org
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750 Sue Barnett	713.691.6833
	webmaster@gardenoaks.org
Dian Austin—M	embership
733 W. 42nd	713.691.6505
	membership@gardenoaks.org
Terry Jeanes—C	Constable Program

922 W. 41st 713.812.9154 constable@gardenoaks.org

## **2010 CIVIC CLUB OPERATING BUDGET**

Printed in this Gazette is the proposed 2010 operating budget. A detailed budget showing line items of expenditures and income will be available at the November 3rd Civic Club meeting. As prescribed by our by-laws the proposed budget must be published in the November Gazette and then voted on by members at the December 1st meeting.

### **2010 NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND 2010 OFFICERS**

President Scott Easterly has appointed a nominating committee consisting of Chris Lindsay chris.lindsay@ sbcglobal.net, Terry Jeanes terry@terryjeanes.com, Rick Knauth rick.knauth@northernstargen.com, Jay Tatum jay.tatum@hok.com, and Chris Funk chris@thefunks.net. The nominating committee will recommend a slate of officers for the Civic Club. Anyone having an interest in serving as a Civic Club Officer should contact a member of the nominating committee. The slate presented in December, will also be available on the Garden Oaks website, www.gardenoaks.org, and in the next Gazette. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the election held at the December meeting. For questions contact Terry Jeanes at 713.812.9154.

REVENUES EXPENSES NET CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP \$9 000 \$1 550 \$7 450 GA7ETTE 18,000 13,000 5,000 HOME TOUR 40,000 22,950 17,050 WINF WALK 4,900 350 4,550 CONSTABLE 71,000 71,000 GARDEN CLUB 200 200 INTEREST INCOME 10 10 FRIENDS OF MONTESSSORI PANCAKE BREAKEAST (249)249 WEBSITE 250 (250)CITIZEN PATROL PROGRAM 500 (500)FALL FESTIVAL 249 (249)JULY 4 PARADE 300 (300)**BEAUTIFICATION, MAINT., & IMPROVEMENTS** 20,000 20.000 BANK FEES 250 (250)RENT (Aztec storage) 1,260 (1, 260)UTILITIES 1.050 (1.050)INSURANCE 500 (500)ACCOUNTING FEES 300 (300)MISCELLANEOUS 1.500 (1,500)TOTALS \$163,110 \$135,258 \$27,852

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB, INC. 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET

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Sheila Briones (2011) Home: 713.861.8091 Cell: 281.685.8133 412 W. 34th sbriones@hotmail.com

Kathy Horner (2009) Cell: 713.385.2050 527 W. 33rd kathy@associatedcounsel.com

### Section 2:

Adrian Berry (2011) Home: 713.692.0408 737 W. 42nd adrian.berry@yahoo.com

Ed de Alba (2010) **President** Cell: 713.628.7008 744 W. 43rd ferrocem@yahoo.com

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

### Section 3:

Jerry Butler (2011) Home: 713.822.3175 871 W. 41st jbutler1982@att.net

Kelly Mathews (2010) **Treasurer** Home: 713.640.5225 855 Lamonte Lane rkmathews1@gmail.com

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Section 5: Tim Weltin (2011) Vice President Home: 713.540.5315 1567 Sue Barnett Drive timweltin@mycase.info

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Terms expire October of year in parentheses.



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# IN MEMORY OF SUSAN TAYLOR

11-30-1958 to 10-10-2009

Susan Deanne Taylor, longtime Garden Oaks resident, went to be with the Lord, Saturday, October 10, 2009. Susan and husband, George, shared their home with their dachshund, Bubba, later followed by newcomer, Bennie and resident cat, Kitty.

Susan was a graphic artist with Halliburton. She shared her extraordinary talents with the neighborhood in the last two Home Tours with graphic artwork on the Day of Tour tickets showcasing the selected homes. She also faithfully delivered the *Gazette* each and every month for the last five years.

An avid runner, Susan participated in the Houston Marathon for the past several years. One of her favorite places in Houston was Memorial Park where she could be found most early mornings. Road trips with George and outdoor adventures with family and friends were Susan's true passion. Susan's bright smile and loving heart brought joy into the world. Through the perils and parties of Hurricane Ike, to the adventures of Bubba and Bennie, Susan always shared her kindness and gentle spirit. Susan, you will be missed.

A memorial service for Susan will be held November 6, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at Berachah Church, 2815 Sage Road in Houston.





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# GAZETTE BLOCK CAPTAINS OF THE MONTH by Dian Austin

November's Block Captains of the Month are Joe and Martha Rhea, who live in the 700 block of W. 41<sup>st</sup> with their grand dog, Anderson Cooper (rescued golden mix). Joe and Martha deliver

Gazettes to their block and also to the 1000 block of Sue Barnett.

The Rheas have lived in Garden Oaks since 1978 and have delivered the *Gazette* for 20+ years. Joe and Martha enjoy being *Gazette* block captains because it's another way to meet your neighbors and to find out what's happening on your very own street.

They were renting in the Heights back in the mid-70's and started looking at Garden Oaks because of the bigger lots and pretty yards. And they're still here after all these years!

We are very appreciative of the Rheas' longtime *Gazette* delivery services, and they will be receiving a \$25 gift card to Lowe's, courtesy of OD's Printing (Oscar Ochoa). Thanks, Joe and Martha!

If anyone else wants to join the Great *Gazette* Delivery Team, please 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. (And if your *Gazette* is not being delivered on time, please let me know too!)

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# GARDEN OAKS: SOMETHING **OLD, SOMETHING NEW**

by Sue Schmidt

It's official! We have a theme for the 2010 Garden Oaks Home Tour! Brenda de Alba submitted the winning entry which caught the attention of the Executive Committee in a close contest with many wonderful entries having been considered. Garden Oaks: Something Old, Something New just seems to "fit" the neighborhood. By submitting the winning entry, Brenda will take home a \$100 gift certificate, and hopefully, enjoy a night out on the town with husband, Ed.

Now that the theme has been picked, work will begin to "build" a marketing plan to showcase our fabulous neighborhood. We have some real surprises in store for residents, new and old, in upcoming editions of the Gazette. This latest theme gives us the opportunity to go back in time to the very beginning of Garden Oaks. If you have any stories (or pictures) to share, give us a call. The 2010 Home Tour promises to be a celebration of everything we love about the place we call home.

The selection committee is also very close to completing the selection of the six homes and three gardens that will be showcased during the next Home Tour. With so many wonderful homes and gardens throughout the neighborhood, narrowing it down can be a huge undertaking. Finding the perfect "footprint," the renovations that blend into our cottage community, and/or extraordinary new construction is not for the faint of heart. Getting a good cross section of families, homes and gardens that make up our diverse neighborhood and spreading it throughout the entirety of Garden Oaks brings a new dimension to the word "challenge." Somehow it always comes together to create an interesting tapestry of Garden Oaks. The next edition of the *Gazette* will introduce the selections that the committee feels best represent what is happening in our community.

The past month has also brought in many new faces that are willing to "step up to the plate" and volunteer their time and efforts to the largest fundraising event for the neighborhood. Many of our newest members came forward at the First Annual Wine Walk which gives us an additional reason to celebrate that event. I just hope they remember they raised their hands. Those who have long served on the Home Tour Executive Committee are thrilled to see so many new volunteers willing to give of their time to benefit this community. The 2010 Garden Oaks Home Tour promises to be one of the best ever!

## 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

Garden Club meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. November's topic is favorite gardening tips, tools and books by members to share with each other. Location: Cathy Wahren's house, 971 Gardenia at 7pm

### **GO SISTERHOOD** by Beverly Jernigan

Every month a group of ladies gathers at a "sister's" house, for good food, good conversation and what else? Show up to find out, you will be glad you came. This month's hostess is Ali Kirby at 1066 W. 42nd Street. Please bring a beverage or snack to share.

**Questions?** Beverly@beverlypr.com 713-494-1733

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729 W. 39th St.	975 Gardenia
721 W. 41st St.	1043 Gardenia
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### INAUGURAL WINE WALK A SUCCESS! But Additional Constable Funds Still Needed

by Dian Austin

Combine the perfect October fall evening with 155+ neighbors, and we had a very successful and memorable first-ever Garden Oaks Wine Walk!

What better way to raise funds for the constable program than mingling with your neighbors and enjoying the backyard paradise of Ed and Brenda de Alba, all while tasting assorted wines from around the world? Mayoral candidates Annise Parker and Gene Locke both stopped by to visit with Garden Oaks residents, as did city council at-large position 1 candidate, Herman Litt. Several of our constables also came by to say hello.



Many of the wine walkers expressed "serious yard envy" over the lushly landscaped yard with its numerous pathways, varied plantings, yard art and huge koi pond; it was indeed the perfect venue for the Wine Walk. Ed and Brenda enjoyed themselves so much that they are committed to hosting a similar event next October which will also be a constable program fundraiser. So, if you missed this one, you'll definitely want to get a ticket for next year's event before it too sells out.

Each of the attendees left with a commemorative Wine Walk glass, underwritten by Terry Jeanes (with the artwork provided by daughter, Becky Jeanes).

There were 10 total table hosts who made the Wine Walk possible; each host covered the cost of the wines and foods they offered. Jason and Alisha Cunningham



set up their table as the "Hurricane Ike Recovery Center" with a big sign thanking the constables for their continued help, particularly after Hurricane Ike, when most of the neighborhood was without power and many homes had been vacated.

As Alisha said, "The constable program was part of our recovery. I wouldn't have been able to sleep at night if we hadn't had them patrolling our streets. I'm happy to hear this will be an annual event."

Thanks also to the other generous table hosts:

Chris Schmidt/SCM Construction Sue Schmidt/Keller Williams Metropolitan Brian Dupnick Miguel Facundo/Facundo Homebuilders Peggy McClard Antiques

# 2009 WINE WALK

















Abundance – A Hill Country Retreat (Shellye Arnold and Tina Sabuco) The GoRead Book Club (Susan McMillian, Becky McCullough, Margaret Peden and Susan Gavin)

The Wineaux (Carey & Adrian Berry, Ray Trantham, Dian Austin & Sandy Altman) Wino Witches of 42<sup>nd</sup> St. (Ali Kirby, Olga Marruffo, Margarita Barcenas & Samantha Kennedy)

The Perfectly Aged Wine Group (Peggy Smith, Pam Parks & Teresa Coleman)

We also had monetary contributions from Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic, Linda Sparks, Ed and Brenda de Alba, Irma Galvan, and Joe Crownover and Jennifer Langdon. Constable donation jars placed on various tables at the event netted about \$250 from various anonymous donors; thanks to all the anonymous tippers!

Once again, a huge thanks goes to Ed and Brenda de Alba for allowing us to use their magnificent yard for the Wine Walk (and for recycling all the bottles!), to all the table hosts and money contributors, and to all who participated in every way. A special thanks also goes to those who "walked the walk" and showed up on foot.

In total, the Wine Walk raised about \$3400 for the Garden Oaks constable program. While we were thrilled to sell out for our first-ever Wine Walk, please don't forget that the constable program is still underfunded. The contract for one constable (40 hours/week) costs about \$6000 monthly.





Each GO resident will soon be receiving the annual constable contributor form for 2010. I hope that each of you will step up and renew your support of this very worthwhile cause. If you've not been a constable program supporter, please consider contributing in some capacity. If you can't afford the full \$200 annually, please contribute any amount that you can handle. Each of us can make a difference in being able to have constable patrols in our neighborhood 24 hours a day and having fast responders on hand if an incident does occur.

The committee will be working hard to make next year's Wine Walk even more fun and raise additional monies for the constable program. If you have any suggestions as to how we can improve the event, please send them to me at FallingwaterT@yahoo.com.

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# OFFICER HIGHLIGHT President, Scott Easterly

by Jessica Jarvis

The Garden Oaks civic club is served by a number of very talented and dedicated individuals willing to volunteer their time and talents to our neighborhood. One of those individuals is Scott Easterly who is serving his first year as president.

Scott and his partner Bill Holden moved to Garden Oaks at the end of August 2005, the weekend that Hurricane Katrina devastated much of the Gulf Coast. Scott and Bill's home faces Gazebo Park and it was their great love for the park that first got them involved in meeting neighbors and becoming active in the life of the neighborhood and work of the civic club. A volunteer park clean up day introduced them to Brenda and Ed de Alba, Beautification Co-chairs, Dian Austin, Membership Chair, and supportive Sandy Altman. Sue Schmidt, Home Tour Chair, and husband Chris were also there, as was Sheila Briones, President. They were all very welcoming and encouraged them to attend civic club meetings and asked if they would participate in the upcoming Spring Home Tour. The list of contacts and

acquaintances grew exponentially from there. "What most impressed me was that these people gave so much of themselves for everyone in the neighborhood whether they knew them or not and made it a better place for everyone to enjoy," he said.

With hobbies and interests in gardening and architecture he feels there are very few other neighborhoods that could offer a better place for them to live in Houston. "When I turn off of Shepherd or Ella my blood pressure drops and I inhale deeper as the stress of the city seems lost in our unique neighborhood," he said.

Scott and Bill were Gazebo Park Captains for three years and decorate the Gazebo in anticipation of Santa's visit each year. They have also co-sponsored three National Nights Out and Scott served as a Home Tour Garden Captain in 2006 and Home Captain in 2008.

While a very active volunteer in church and professional organizations, Scott had not volunteered in a civic or neighborhood organization since 1976 in St. Louis. But after Bill decided to enroll in night school, Scott found himself a little

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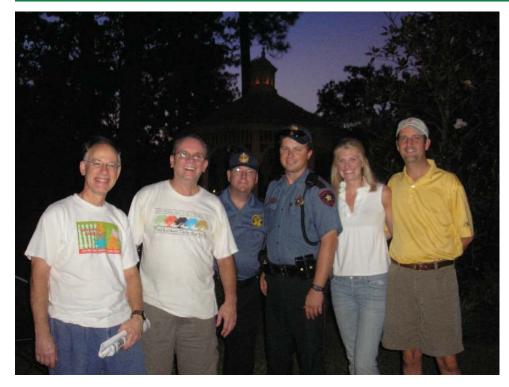
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From the left, Civic Club President, Scott Easterly and Bill Holden with constables and neighbors at the Gazebo Park on National Night Out.

bored and with extra time on his hands. "When asked to consider running for president of the civic club I was amused and honored but did not seriously consider it," he said. "My friend and first known resident of Garden Oaks Jessica Jarvis pushed me to re-consider. If I had any idea I would be in this position I would have paid more attention to the details of the organization the previous three years that I've lived in Garden Oaks!"

The position of president has greatly expanded Scott's circle of relationships. From working with City Council Member Toni Lawrence on the Quick Start Tennis court, or working with other civic club presidents and residents on the 34th Street Corridor Quiet Zone, to judging desserts at the Garden Oaks Picnic or 4th of July Parade entrants, Scott has met many neighbors working together who care about the quality of life in Houston and Garden Oaks in particular. For him this has been a year of enlightenment. "I have been changed permanently by these people and experiences," Scott said. "Get involved if you want to add some new dimension to your existence.

You will bless yourself and others in the process."

Thank you, Scott, for the time and talents you bring to our neighborhood as a valued volunteer!

Editors note: While it seems I get credited or blamed for Scott accepting the call to be president, I figure we're even since he indirectly got me into volunteering to be *Gazette* Editor!

# GO READ STARTING A NEW CHAPTER

by Allison Kirby

A second chapter of Garden Oaks' successful Book Club GO READ (Garden Oaks Read, Eat And Drink/Discuss) is forming, and is looking for 12 residents interested in reading and feasting once a month to discuss a book. Ideally each member will commit to the whole year, and one month of the year host dinner, drinks and discussion on the book of their choice. Contact Allison Kirby at alioverholt@hotmail.com to join the fun starting January 2010.

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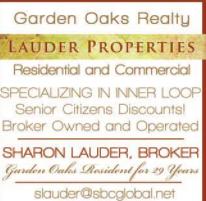
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GO KIDS NEWS by Sarah Heath

Gobble, gobble! Happy November, everyone. The weather is finally cooling off, football is on TV and I am really looking forward to our delicious Thanksgiving turkey. I am so thankful to be a part of such a wonderful and awesome group. We are all very lucky to call Garden Oaks "home" aren't we?!

A big DANKE SCHÖN goes out to the Cohoon Family for hosting the Oktoberfest Potluck! A great time was had by all. For those of you who weren't able to attend we hope to see you at the next potluck event. Stay tuned for more details!

Join us for Moms' Night Out! This month we'll be meeting at Catlin Tucker's house, 403 West 32<sup>nd</sup>, on Tuesday, November 10, at 7:00p.m. Bring a drink or a snack to share please. For more information contact Maricela Pina at pinamaricela@yahoo.com. Hope to see you there!

GO Kids parents can learn all about your neighborhood school, Garden

Oaks Elementary, and its offerings, including traditional, Vanguard G/T and Montessori programs, at the GOES School Forum. There will be teachers and parents from each program, as well as the principal, to answer questions. Please join us at Garden Oaks Elementary school on November 5th, at 6:00 p.m. Contact the school office, 713-696-2930, for more information.

### **SPARK Park fence update**

The Fence Committee has come up with a beautiful design for the fence. Now we need to raise funds and get it built! The cost for this extraordinary fence is estimated to be around \$26,000. Please send your donations to Garden Oaks Elementary and mark FENCE in the memo line. Any amount large or small will be greatly appreciated! Tell your friends! Checks should be mailed to: Garden Oaks Elementary School, 901 Sue Barnett, Houston, TX 77018.

Now that the weather is finally cooling down we hope to see lots of new faces at the GO Kids All Ages playgroup! We meet at Candlelight Park, 1520 Candlelight Lane, every Friday from 10-12. Come play with us!

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 please 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 family friendly 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.





## COMPUTER SAFETY REMINDERS FOR OUR CHILDREN

by Lindsey Pollock, GOES Principal

The holidays are fast approaching and before you know it, you will be spending extended time periods at home with children who are looking for something to do. A favorite activity for children on a cold or rainy day is to take the family computer and access games and activities on the computer. At school, computers have child safety features such as content filters and many families have parental controls at home, too. Even with these filters, the internet does pose risk to children and it is best to check on your child frequently when they are on the computer to monitor their activities. Also remember to check the histories of where your children have traveled on the internet. Talk to your children about the internet and proactively encourage discussions about their "travels" in cyberspace! Additionally, the FBI offers the following tips to share with your child for computer use at home or at school (you could post these near the computer at home):

- First, remember never to give out personal information such as your name, home address, school name, or telephone number in a chat room or on bulletin boards. Also, never send a picture of yourself to someone you chat with on the computer without your parent's permission.
- Never write to someone who has made you feel uncomfortable or scared.
- Do not meet someone or have them visit you without the permission of your parents.
- Tell your parents right away if you read anything on the Internet that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Remember that people online may not be who they say they are. Someone who says that "she" is a "12-year-old girl" could really be an older man.

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### **CRITTER CORNER**

by Casey Farris

Every now and then it doesn't hurt to take stock of just how good we have it and this month is the perfect time to count your blessings – all of them, big and small.

### Critters 101: Stuff the Turkey, Not Your Dog

Ahhhh, Thanksgiving! The aroma of a mouthwatering turkey roasting in the oven; Mom's cornbread stuffing cooling on the counter; and pumpkin pie tempting your palate. Just don't forget the happy, little, furry-feet following your every move.

Many people share the family feast with their dog in an offering of thanks



and love. While this is an innocent and seemingly gracious and loving gesture, the truth is, it's more loving to not share your holiday meals with your dog. The same rules that apply to us, apply to our pets; the little treats here and there can add up quickly.

Pancreatitis is just one of the problems that can occur with a high fat and unhealthy diet. The pancreas produces digestive enzymes that break down food so the body can digest it. Pancreatitis is an inflammation of the pancreas, causing leakage of the digestive enzymes whereby the pancreas literally starts to "digest itself". Symptoms include loss of appetite, severe and frequent vomiting, diarrhea that may contain blood, reluctance to walk, weakness, pain, crying, restlessness, irritability or refusal to eat.

The "typical" pancreatitis victim is middle-aged or older and is overweight. It's common in both sexes, and very often the family has just had a party or a big holiday meal when this disease strikes. Pancreatitis may occur only once in a dog's life or it can become chronic. While it could simply cause a mild attack of pain lasting a few hours, it could also quickly become fatal or cause serious side effects including shock, blood clotting disorders, heart arrhythmias, and liver or kidney damage. If your pet exhibits any of these signs, even if mild at first, get him to your vet immediately.

Remember, if your pet is often one that gets a table scrap, extra caution should be taken, as his possibility for an acute pancreatitis attack could already be high. Even indulging him "just this once" things can turn bad quickly. Make sure your pet has no access to any food left on the counters or tables. Even the best behaved, well trained pets may be too tempted with the holiday treats. And just in case, make sure you have an emergency number for your vet or the emergency vet clinic number handy for when your vet's office is closed.

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**. Please forward your questions and pet news to Casey@GoDoqUSA.com or call 713-688-6363.



CITIZENS' PATROL by Carl Waters, Jr.

I am proud to report there were at least 14 block parties during our celebration of National Night Out in October. Thanks to everyone who hosted a party.

The neighborhood computer bulletin board was ablaze in early October discussing several Section One burglaries. Please be aware of suspicious activity such as slow moving cars or persons going up and down multiple driveways as they pass through the neighborhood and report the activity to HPD or the Constable's Office.

The holiday season is upon us once again. Here are some safety tips for your holiday shopping:

- Stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid trips after dark when possible. Go with friends or family members (remember there is safety in numbers). Park in well lit areas as close to the entrance as possible.
- Use checks, debit cards or credit cards to avoid carrying large amounts of cash when you shop. Ladies keep your purses close to your body and gentlemen put your wallets in your front pocket to make them harder to steal.
- Keep an eye on your purchases when you stop to eat.
- Avoid carrying large numbers of packages; use a package pickup

service when you can.

• Have your keys out before leaving the store. Place packages in the trunk of the car or in other hidden areas as you leave the mall or return to make more purchases.

### September Crime Statistics: 5

*Burglary: 1* 1000 block of W. 41<sup>st</sup> St. on Friday, September 25 at 3:15 p.m. (residence).

Theft: 3 900 block of Sue Barnett Dr. on Monday, September 21 at 11:52 a.m. (school). 800 block of Azalea St. on Tuesday, September 29 at 7:40 a.m. (residence). 1500 block of Sue Barnett Dr. on Wednesday, September 30 at midnight (residence).

### Auto Theft: 1

3100 N. Shepherd Dr. on Sunday, Sept. 27 at 1:00 a.m. (restaurant parking lot).

While there were only two crimes reported in the month of September 2008, the overall crime numbers are still down for the year.

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.





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# **NOVEMBER 2009**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Civic Club mtg 7:30pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 GO Kids MNO 7pm, Catlin Tucker's house, 403 West 32nd	11	12 Garden Club 7pm Cathy Wahren's house, 971 Gardenia	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 GO Sisterhood 7:30pm, Kirby home 1066 W 42nd St.	20 Civic Club Symphony 8pm Free Admission HBU, Cultural Arts Center	21
22	23	24	25	26Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

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