# GAZETTE

**VOLUME 34 ISSUE 11** 



# Wine Walk a Big Success

by Dian Austin

With a touch of fall in the air, and not a cloud in the sky, some 235 people sipped, strolled and mingled at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Oaks Wine Walk. We saw a lot of

new faces this year! If you were lucky enough to have a ticket to this sold-out fundraiser for the constable program, then you were able to enjoy a great selection of wines and good foods while taking in the gorgeous venue.

Thanks to all who supported this increasingly fun event. The collective efforts netted a little more than \$8,000 for the constable program.

The Garden Oaks Cookbook committee did an outstanding job of preparing and serving appetizers and other treats from the upcoming cookbook. Each of the foods provided were made from recipes in the new book, and they sold another 20 cookbooks that evening. If you have not yet pre-ordered your cookbook, you are missing out on a real treasure! Order them at www.gardenoakscooks.com or use the order form in the Gazette. The cookbooks will be here very soon!

This year we had a cash vote to determine the favorite wines of the evening. The first place winners were the GO Kids' moms. Dressed in their clever aprons and heels, they served a 2008 Huarpe Taymente Cabernet Sauvignon from Argentina. They received a \$50 gift certificate to Octane, our new

neighborhood wine and coffee bar, and a \$25 gift card to Kroger. We heard they used the Octane gift certificate immediately after the wine walk ended!

In 2<sup>nd</sup> place were Lorie and John Reno, Section 1 neighbors, who make their own wines. They served both red and white wines from their 2010 Garden Oaks Vineyards production. The white was made from Australian Petit Verdot grapes; the red was made from Chilean Carmenere grapes. Everyone agreed that both were delicious, and their table had guite a crowd all night, eager to learn more about winemaking. Lorie and John received a \$50 gift certificate to Octane for their 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish.

And in third place were the Australian wines served by Solution Builders (Dara and Laura Childs) and Lesli Dabney Photography. They poured a 2006 Shaw and Smith Shiraz and a 2007 Penley Estate Condor Coonawarra Shiraz Blend. They received a \$25 gift card from Kroger. These folks brought a TV to view the UT/Nebraska game!

Thanks to everyone who helped make this a really big success. First and foremost, a huge thanks to Ed and Brenda de Alba, the Continued on page 14

# **NOV 2010**

## **CIVIC CLUB MEETINGS**

November 2, 7pm at Garden Oaks Elementary School

#### **UPCOMING MEETING**

December 7, 7pm Holiday Party and election of officers

## **REMINDERS**

GO Cook - A Neighborly Collection of Recipes is now available, just in time for holiday gift giving and for planning your holiday dinner parties. See insert for more details on ordering your copy.

Complete your 2011 Constable and Civic Club membership forms found in this issue today. Your support is needed!

## **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

A new beautification hair is needed for 2011. If you have a passion for our green spaces and are interested contact beautification@gardenoaks.org.

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

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#### CITIZENS ON PATROL

by Carl Waters, Jr.

Thanks to all of you who hosted or participated in National Night Out block parties in October. We sure did some catching up at our block party hosted by the Kramer's. I hope your event was equally enjoyable.

We had a large number of crimes reported on the HPD website for September. Eleven crimes were listed. Eight were thefts with the listed location of the occurrence as the driveway or street, which leads me to believe the events were motor vehicle burglaries.

While not always the case, most vehicle burglaries can be prevented by taking anything of value out of the vehicle and locking it. Even those \$9 sunglasses you bought at the local drug store can be enough to peak the interest of a passerby to see what else might be in your vehicle.

# September Crime Statistics: 11 Burglary: 1

700 block of W. 41<sup>st</sup> St. on Tuesday, September 14 at 11:30 a.m. (residence).

#### Theft: 9

800 W. 41st St. on Saturday, September 4 at 9:30 p.m. (driveway). 1300 block of Sue Barnett Dr. on Tuesday, September 7 at midnight (street). 900 block of W. 43rd St. on Tuesday, September 7 at 8:00 a.m. (residence). 200 block of W. 32nd St. on Tuesday, September 7 at 5:00 p.m. (driveway). 4300 block of Alba Rd. on Tuesday, September 28 at 10:30 p.m. (driveway). 800 block of W. 43rd St. on Tuesday, September 28 at 10:30 p.m. (driveway). 800 block of Azalea on Tuesday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m. (driveway). 800 block of Azalea on Tuesday, September 28 at 9:30 p.m. (driveway). 200 block of W. 33rd St. on Wednesday, September 29 at 7:00 a.m. (driveway).

#### **Auto Theft: 1**

3100 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Wednesday, September 22 at 11:00 a.m. (restaurant).

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.

## Civic Club Officers

Mark Klein—President

231 W. 34th 281.536.6063

president@gardenoaks.org

**Scott Easterly—Vice President** 

761 W. 42nd 713.691.3087

vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Phil Ramirez—Treasurer

975 Lamonte 832.794.1221

treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Heather Leverett — Secretary

319 W. 31st 832.455.6254

secretary@gardenoaks.org

## Gazette Contacts Jessica Jarvis—Editor

1551 Sue Barnett 713.446.6440

gazette@gardenoaks.org

**Dian Austin—Delivery Coordinator** 

733 W. 42nd 713. 691.6505

gazettedelivery@gardenoaks.org

**Kristin Strange** — Advertising Director

832.651.0831

gazetteads@gardenoaks.org

**Proofreaders** 

Carol Smith and Dian Austin

# Standing Committee Chairs Brenda de Alba—Beautification

744 W. 43rd 713.694.5934

beautification@gardenoaks.org

Carl Waters Jr.—Citizens' Patrol

821 W. 31st 713.864.1992

gocop@gardenoaks.org

Joe Muscara—GardenOaks.org

750 Sue Barnett 713.691.6833

webmaster@gardenoaks.org

Dian Austin—Membership

733 W. 42nd 713.691.6505

membership@gardenoaks.org

Terry Jeanes—Constable Program

922 W. 41st 713.812.9154

constable@gardenoaks.org

## 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.



# 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.

319 West 33<sup>rd</sup> 706 West 39<sup>th</sup> 854 West 41<sup>st</sup> 1020 West 42<sup>nd</sup> 979 Gardenia 1422 Sue Barnett

November Birthdays

Stacy Collins Gross – 2 Katie Swick – 4

Holly Veech – 8

**Anthony Neiser** – 10

Caroline Padon - 12

Sheila Briones – 14

Maggie Veech - 18

Susan Saranie -19 Kit Schoenfield - 23

Lucy McLean - 25

Cheryl Cohorn - 28

Megan Salch - 29

Happy Anniversary
Mark & Katie Swick - 10

#### **Out and About**

**Carey and Adrian Berry** just returned from a long weekend in Utah. **Dian Austin** and **Sandy Altman** enjoyed a Windstar

cruise from Venice, to several Croatian ports, Pompeii, Sicily, and ending in Rome. **Georgia Lister** visited Austin for a fun time. **Michael Beard** visited Tuscaloosa for the Bama and Ole Miss Game. **Terry Jeanes** and **Linda Sparks** enjoyed a terrific long weekend in New Orleans with family members, Becky Jeanes and Nancy Childers. **Heather McKeown** enjoyed a visit to Barcelona.

Congrats to **Mel** and **Ken Johnson** on the purchase of their new weekend home in Wimberley, a stone house and almost 6 acres. Another big October event – **Tina Sabuco's** Tina in Wonderland 50<sup>th</sup> birthday costume party enjoyed by many Garden Oaks neighbors and friends at the Magnolia Ballroom.

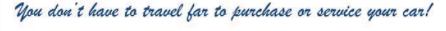
## **Condolences and Special Thoughts**

To **Ray Trantham** on the unexpected passing of his mother in late September in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Condolences to **Bill Holden**, on the loss of his mom in Anderson, South Carolina in October and to **Al Irvin**, on the death of his mom Del in Florida in early October.

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







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## **GOMO Board of Directors**

## Section 1:

Sheila Briones (2011) **Secretary** 412 W. 34th

Home: 713.861.8091 Cell: 281.685.8133 sbriones@hotmail.com

Mark Saranie (2012) 235 W 33rd Home: 713.861.7994 Cell: 713.724.1271

msaranie@comcast.net

Melissa Haselden Zepeda (2013) 320 W. 34th Street 713.459.5339 or 713.426.6413 melissahaselden@gmail.com

#### Section 2:

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

Ed de Alba (2013) **President** 744 W. 43rd Cell: 713.628.7008 ferrocem@yahoo.com

Gale Gorman (2012) 742 Sue Barnett gale\_gorman@mac.com

#### Section 3:

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

Daniel Horowitz (2012) 1006 Sue Barnett dhorowitz@abrahamwatkins.com

Kelly Mathews (2013) **Treasurer** 855 Lamonte Lane Home: 713.640.5225 rkmathews1@gmail.com

#### Section 5:

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

Luke Fatheree (2012) 1034 W 43rd St. 713.888.4743

Terms expire October of year in parentheses.

## **GOMO ANNUAL MEETING**

by Tim Weltin, Vice President, GOMO

The Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO) held its annual meeting at Garden Oaks Elementary on Wednesday, October 20. One director from each of four respective sections was elected and a ballot measure to renew the annual contract for two full-time constable patrols was considered.

The one-year cost for the two constable patrols is approximately \$150,000. Crime in Garden Oaks has continued to decrease since the two GOMO-funded constable patrols were added to the long-standing single patrol that has been funded by the neighborhood through direct donations and various fundraisers. The three patrols combine to give the neighborhood 120 hours of dedicated constable coverage per week.

An annual allocation of \$20,000 for maintenance of neighborhood green spaces was approved by the membership last year. It was passed as a three-year funding measure, so \$20,000 in funds has already been allocated by the membership for each of the next two years. The voting results of the annual meeting were not available at the time of this publication's deadline but will be provided in a subsequent *Gazette*. Thank you to all GOMO members who attended the annual meeting or who voted by returning the mail-in proxy ballot.

The final tally regarding the initiative of Section 4 property attempting to join GOMO is available now that the October 8th deadline for the project has past. Ballots were cast by 42 percent of property owners in Section 4; ballots were not returned by 58 percent of property owners in the Section. Of those casting a ballot, 54 percent favored membership. Because an affirmative vote of 60 percent of all property owners was required for

## **GOMO Review Meetings**

take place at 6:30p.m. prior to the Civic Club meetings.

membership, the status quo prevailed and the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization will continue its representation of 80 percent of Garden Oaks: Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5.

The GOMO board of directors holds a business meeting on the third Wednesday of each month where construction plans should be brought for feedback and approval. The Wednesday evening meetings begin at 7 p.m. and are held at the Garden Oaks Professional Building, at 4001 N. Shepherd Suite 216. The board has an informal plan review session at 6:30 p.m. preceding civic club meetings. Those meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month in the cafeteria of Garden Oaks Elementary, at 901 Sue Barnett.

For plan review, please bring two copies of the plans, including a site plan and elevation with full dimensions; a survey of the property; and, if the construction includes changes to a detached garage, elevations of the residence.

GOMO meetings are open to all members. You especially are urged to attend if you have questions or concerns. The current directors, three of your neighbors per represented section, who are elected by you, are listed in this publication. Additional information, as well as a copy of the deed restrictions for all neighborhood sections including Section 4 is online at www.GardenOaks.org.

## GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS

#### **President**

Janet Cones 713.682.4416 jkcones@sbcglobal.net

**1st Vice President** 

Trish Mehrkam 713.688.4408

**2nd Vice President** 

Chris Lindsay 713.819.8412

Treasurer

Robert DeVeau 832.659.7797

**Co-Secretaries** 

Cathy Wahren 713.686.8686 Yard of the Month selection committee

Mary Lynn Porter

# GARDEN OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAGNET GRANT APPROVED

by Lindsey Pollock, GOES Principal

Houston ISD Board Members voted Thursday, October 14, to accept an \$11.5 million Magnet Schools Assistance Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The three-year grant will enable HISD to provide an all-school Montessori Magnet program with an emphasis on environmental sciences at Garden Oaks Elementary.

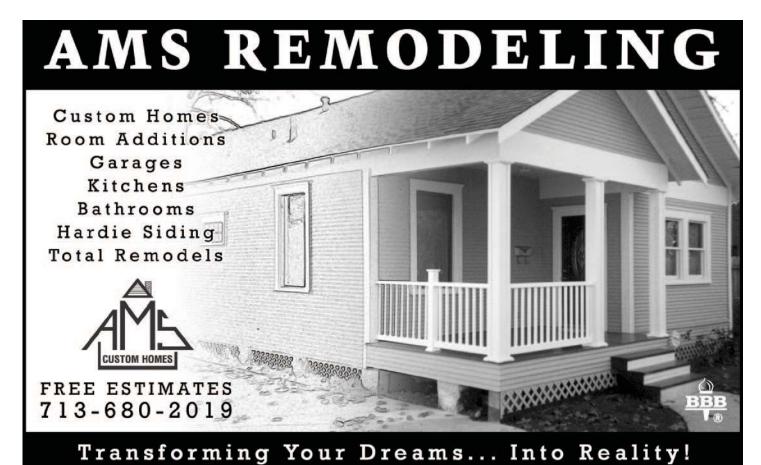
This program implementation will enrich the education experience for students who are zoned to Garden Oaks and attract students from all parts of Houston. The specific interests and efforts of the Garden Oaks community were recognized by including an environmental science theme.

Superintendent Terry Grier and School Board Trustee Anna Eastman generated a call-out "to congratulate Garden Oaks Elementary School for winning this federal grant, and we look forward to its impact on our students and families."

The grant will provide magnet assistance for four other HISD campuses in addition to Garden Oaks Elementary. During the first year, efforts on campus will focus on the implementation of the Environmental Sciences curriculum as plans for transitioning to an all-school Montessori magnet are developed. Students who presently are enrolled in the traditional program will continue to receive an outstanding traditional education while the gradual transition progresses. For further information call the school at 713.696.2930.







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## DEED RESTRICTION ENFORCEMENT IN SECTION 4

by Betsy Stein, Section 4 Resident

I live in Section 4 of Garden Oaks and love this neighborhood. One of the things that attracted me to GO is the great look of the large front setbacks and the generous side spacing between the houses that our deed restrictions provide.

Out of a desire to ensure that our deed restrictions were properly enforced, in October 2009, three Section 4 property owners signed a petition to initiate a vote to amend the deed restrictions in Section 4. The amendment would have provided for Section 4 to join the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO).

If passed, three Section 4 property owners would have been elected to the board of GOMO, and GOMO would enforce the deed restrictions in Section 4 as it does in the other four sections of Garden Oaks. When I heard about this effort, I became an avid supporter of trying to get this amendment passed.

However, for this amendment to pass, owners of 60 percent of the property in the section needed to vote for the amendment.

As of the October 8, 2010 voting deadline, only 42 percent of the property owners participated in the ballot. Out of those who did, 54 percent were in favor of the amendment.

So, while the majority of those who voted in Section 4 did want GOMO, there were not enough votes for it to pass. By default then, Section 4 will continue to have their deed restrictions enforced only by the city. To keep the deed restrictions viable, it will be necessary to report any deed restriction violations to the city. This can be done by calling the City of Houston Deed Restriction Hotline at 832.393.6333 or by filing a written complaint via www. houstontx.gov/legal/deed.html. Deed restriction violations in Section 4 can

be reported by anyone, not just Section 4 property owners.

Deed restrictions are essential to maintaining the integrity of Garden Oaks. Deed restrictions provide for the spacious areas between our homes and for the front setbacks. They also ensure that dwellings are limited to a single family and disallow commercial businesses from using the lots (except in specific locations in Sections 1 and 2 as defined by the deed restrictions).

As several other committed neighbors and I talked to Section 4 property owners, we discovered a lot of misinformation in the neighborhood about GOMO and about deed restrictions in general.

#### Here are the facts:

- Section 4 has valid and enforceable deed restrictions. They always have had deed restrictions, and as long as we enforce them, they always will.
- 2. GOMO is funded by a "transfer assessment" at the time a property sells. That fee is 0.75 percent of the sales price of the home. Generally, the transfer assessment is paid at closing by the buyer. Transfer assessments are collected in the other four sections of GO by the title company and do not adversely impact selling one's home nor has it affected the sales in these sections.
- 3. The transfer assessment monies collected at closing are used by GOMO to keep deed restrictions enforced. GOMO is required by their by-laws to keep a certain amount of money in the bank for this use. Any surplus above that amount is given back to the neighborhood via a vote by property owners on how it is spent. Currently GOMO funds two of the three constable patrols and maintenance of all the GO green spaces throughout the neighborhood.
- 4. The transfer assessment cannot be changed except by owners of 60 percent of the property voting

- for such a change. It cannot not be changed by the GOMO board.
- 5. The transfer assessment is not a tax. It is a one-time assessment paid when the house is sold. It is not paid annually. It is not paid to the city, county, state nor federal government. It is not paid by both the buyer and the seller. It is paid by the buyer at the time of closing. If the buyer and seller wish to negotiate who pays, that is their decision.
- 6. The GOMO Board of Directors consists solely of your neighbors who own property in Garden Oaks (three per section). They are unpaid volunteers who are elected by the property owners in the section they represent. They have no interest in having Section 4 join GOMO except to see the neighborhood unified and the deed restrictions enforced consistently throughout the five sections of Garden Oaks.

I talked with a number of Section 4 property owners who were very interested in having GOMO keep our deed restrictions enforced. I am very committed to this and hope that we can start another effort at some point in the future. If others are willing to volunteer for future efforts, call me at 281.728.4465 or email me at betsy1172@gmail.com.

It takes a lot of people knocking on doors, and meeting with neighbors in order to get all the questions answered and concerns addressed. Having more "feet on the street" might have made the difference in the outcome of this initiative.







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## ADDRESSING BULLYING WITH CHILDREN

by Lindsey Pollock, GOES Principal

Bullying has been in the national spotlight and has become a serious topic of discussion at school campuses among parents, teachers and students.

What is bullying? The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services defines bullying as "aggressive behavior that

is intentional and involves an imbalance of power and strength." Bullying may include physical contact such as pushing or kicking, but also may include name-calling, teasing or excluding someone from the group.

Often, children need help to stop bullying. Parents may be unsure how to best help their child especially if the child is asking the parent not to report the bullying to the school.

First, parents are encouraged to support their child and take the complaints seriously. Parents may reassure their child that they are not in trouble and that they are doing the right thing in telling a grown-up. Often, children do not want to be perceived as a tattle-tail at school so they tolerate the bullying without reporting it to a teacher or other adult.

Parents may offer the following suggestions to their children: keep money and valuables at home; stay near the teacher and other adults; do not hit back but instead go directly to an adult; and speak up immediately when the problem occurs. Parents should go directly to the teacher or school administrator and never confront the family or child directly.

If your child is accused of being a bully, be open minded and solution focused. It may be that your child is responding to a stressor in his or her life with which they are unable to cope. Listen to the report of the school or teacher and talk to your child about the alleged behavior. If your child has made an error in judgment, help them self reflect and take responsibility for their actions.

Then help your child figure out what is driving the behavior and what other course of action would be more appropriate. Identify any possible underlying problems such as insecurities about personal traits or abilities. Help your child identify a strength and focus on developing hobbies and friendships to help foster a sense of positive self esteem.

Students should never have to tolerate bullying at school or anywhere else. Bullying may happen anytime children gather together and may extend from one setting to another such as sports teams, school and church.

Working together, parents, teachers and administrators can positively impact social situations and create peaceful, productive social environments for children.

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## **GREAT NEW RESTAURANTS**

by Scott Easterly

Many new eating establishments are in the Garden Oaks area and I want to share one my new favorites, Pie in the Sky Pie Co.

Located at 632 W. 19th, Pie in the Sky Co. has great pies by the slice, 6 inches, 9 inches and a four-piece sampler with ice cream. They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. except Sunday when they close at 3 p.m. The staff is very attentive with everyone taking care of you with a friendly attitude. The food is good too with a focus on using local suppliers.

Have you noticed the new Mc Donald's on Ella, just north of 610? It is one of their new prototype stores; only 400 are being built this year worldwide. The new buildings are more contemporary and designed to appeal to a wide clientele with areas of individual chairs and areas reserved for groups of people.

Another great find is Phil's BBQ on Washington Ave. at 110 S. Heights Blvd. This is not your run of the mill BBQ joint. They have a full bar and the requisite cafeteria line with sides that include sweet potato fries, garlic cheese grits, cucumber salad, grilled vegetables and three-cheese macaroni. We enjoy the quieter lunch crowd over the dinner crowd but the tables are nicely spaced apart.

I look forward to trying Octane on N. Shepherd at 34th, next to the coming-soon Pink's Pizza and down the street from the soon-to-open Five Guys Burgers and Fries at 610.













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# 2 0 1 0 G A R D E N O A K S























## IATIONAL NIGHT OUT





















WINE WALK Continued from page 1 homeowners who provided the perfect venue for this event. Being in their yard was a real treat in itself.

Thanks also to the following people who made this all possible:

## **Our sponsors:**

Garden Oaks Builders, Inc. (Harry James) Irma Galvan, Section 2 neighbor and owner of Irma's Restaurant Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic Linda Sparks, Section 4 neighbor Terry Jeanes, neighbor, and ReMax Metro realtor who underwrote the cost of the souvenir wine glasses

These folks help time and again, and some are already committed to sponsor next year!

**Our table hosts**, who each had an artful presentation of food and drink, and provided a great selection of different wines from Chile, Argentina, New Zealand, Australia and California.

- Tina Rowe & Jim Dicola with Artesa Vineyards & Winery
- 2. Sean & Laura McGlothlin

- 3. Jeana Kelly & Denise Hansen
- 4. Heidi & Stuart Arouty
- 5. Cheryl Brown & Jeanine Fisher
- 6. Solution Builders (Dara & Laura Childs) & Lesli Dabney Photography
- 7. Facundo Home Builders (Miguel Facundo)
- GO Kids Group (Amber Berend, Selena Crochet, Sarah McGee Heath, Lissa Hutchison, Brandy Groth, Michele Jankowski, Kristin Jordan, Jennifer Osowski and Kerry Taylor)
- Kimberly & Daniel Horowitz, Kirstin & Tony D'Amico, and Karie & Alyn Goad
- 10. Cavallini's Creations (Orlando Flores)
- Holly & Matt Veech, Liz & Matt Moriarty and Emily & Steve Schwarzbach
- 12. Craig & M'lissa Dilley and Scott Miller
- 13. Lorie & John Reno (Garden Oaks Vineyards)

The Garden Oaks cookbook

**committee** who prepared and provided tons of fabulous foods:

Cindy Jorgensen Sarah Heath Kristin Jordan Sharron Sanborn Angela Winston Lissa Hutchison And the wine walk committee members who organized the whole

event:
Carey Berry
Terry Jeanes
Shelley Rogers
Tina Rowe
Ed and Brenda de Alba
Leslie Saunders
Sheila Briones
Dian Austin

Thanks also to Brandy Stoesz Photography who took pictures during the evening.

Ed and Brenda have already agreed to host next year's Wine Walk. Once a date is selected, we'll let everyone know so you can put it on you calendar!

For 2011, we could use more committee members. This is a really fun way to participate, meet new neighbors and give back to the neighborhood while supporting our constable program. If you want to help, be a cash sponsor or host a table (provide and pour wines) next year, email me at FallingwaterT@yahoo.com.

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# AIR CONDITIONING TIPS FOR THE WINTER

by Mitch Weigand

# Tip No. 8: Preventing Carbon Monoxide Problems in Your Home

What is carbon monoxide (CO) and why is it so dangerous? Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, deadly gas. Because you can't see, taste or smell it, CO can kill you before you know it's there. In America, carbon monoxide is the leading cause of poisoning deaths. Children, pregnant women and their unborn babies, senior citizens and people with coronary or respiratory problems are at greatest risk.

When carbon monoxide gets into your home's atmosphere, it enters your blood stream and replaces the oxygen, causing flu-like symptoms including fatigue, weakness, vomiting, trouble breathing, heart palpitations and even gastrointestinal problems. When people are exposed to high CO levels, they can pass out before they even have symptoms. Slow CO leaks can poison an environment so that people experience chronic symptoms that worsen over time.

**How to Protect Yourself and Your** 

#### **Family**

It is highly recommended that you have your gas furnace cleaned and inspected every year. Carbon monoxide is a byproduct of combustion and present whenever fuel is burned. Virtually every gas furnace produces some CO, which is carried away from your home through the furnace's venting.

However, a furnace not running at peak performance can be deadly. While newer gas furnaces are equipped with features that shut it off when a problem is detected, older furnaces have no such devices. Over time, a furnace can develop small cracks in its combustion chamber. They may not be visible to the naked eye but it is through these cracks that CO leaks into your home.

Another important task is to change your filter regularly. A clean filter will help your furnace run more efficiently and help keep dust from being circulated throughout your home.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends installing at least one carbon monoxide detector per household, near the sleeping area. Additional detectors on every level of a home and in every bedroom provide extra protection. Be sure to choose an Underwriters Laboratories Inc. listed detector that emits an audible alarm and has a digital display.

Here are some other helpful hints:

- Never leave a car running in a garage, even with the garage door open.
   Fumes can build up very quickly in the garage and living area of your home.
- Never use a gas range, oven or dryer for heating, even for a short time.
- Never burn charcoal in houses, garages, vehicles or tents.
- Never sleep in a room with an unvented gas or kerosene space heater.
- Never use any gasoline-powered engines (mowers, weed trimmers, chain saws, small engines or generators) in enclosed spaces.

Lastly, never ignore CO poisoning symptoms, especially if more than one person is feeling ill.

Mitch is the owner of Air Wise™ and a member of the Garden Oaks Civic Club. You can email Mitch any A/C questions at mitch@ airwisehouston.com or write to 1590 Sue Barnett Drive, 77018. Check out Mitch's new website at www.airwisehouston.com.





## **GO KIDS NEWS**

by Sarah Heath

Happy Thanksgiving! I am so thankful to live in such an amazing neighborhood and to have a wonderful support system of friends and neighbors like you.

Congratulations to our very own "Desperate Housewives." The GO Kids table at the Garden Oaks Wine Walk was the evening's big winner! The retro theme and costumes were a big hit and the wine was delicious. Way to go Amber, Selena, Michele, Kerry, Jennifer, Lissa, Brandy and Sarah. What a fun night! Can't wait to see what you have in store for us next year!

Save the date for the annual Holiday Potluck and Caroling Party hosted by the fabulous Lister-Bowman family. The festivities will take place on Sunday, December 19. Be on the lookout for more information on our list serve and in next month's *Gazette*. You won't want to miss this wonderful tradition and celebration.

GO Cook - A Neighborly Collection of Recipes has arrived! Just in time for holiday gift giving and for planning your holiday dinner parties! All pre-orders

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8924 Emmott Road 713-896-0052 will be delivered in November so look for details via email on how to you will receive your copy! We will continue to take orders through both the website www.gardenoakscooks.com. Please place your order now for all your gift-giving needs! Have questions? Email gocookbook@att.net.

**GO Baby** is for the little bits up to age three and **GO Buddies** is for all our "big" kids. Check out our BigTent calendar for dates and join in on all the fun. For more information contact Kristin Jordan (kriki@me.com), Emily Garcia (emigarcia13@hotmail.com) or Morgan Shields (morganbshields@gmail.com).

Calling all moms! Anyone ready for a Moms' Night Out before the holiday madness starts? Grab a bottle or two of wine and meet us at Collina's on Tuesday, November 9, at 7 p.m. Collina's is located at 502 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street and is BYOB. Please contact Maricela Pina at pinamaricela@yahoo.com for more information.

Hey, Dads, ready for some football and beer? Dads' Night Out is the place to be on Thursday, November 18, 7 p.m. at the Petrol Station. Come unwind with the guys. Contact Richard Whisenhunt at whisenhuntrichard@yahoo.com for more information.

Are you or someone you know an overwhelmed, sleep deprived new parent? Don't worry 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 832.724.3325 or sarahmheath@gmail.com.

## CONSTABLE PROGRAM

## Support for 2011 Needed

by Terry Jeanes & Susan Love Saranie

The constable mailer is on its way. Be sure to complete the soon to arrive constable supporter form for 2011. Supporter contributions are for January to December each year, coinciding with the Civic Club's constable contract with the county. Please send in your contribution within the first quarter in order to make accounting, recognition, and volunteer work flow more smoothly. Remember new supporter forms are requested each year.

Thank you to all who have contributed. You do make a difference.

## **Updated Supporter List:**

www.gardenoaks.org/involvement/civicclub-consta.html

#### Vacation Watch Form:

www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/ VacationWatch.pdf

## **Supporter Form:**

www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/ ContributorForm2010.pdf

## September 2010 Statistics

Miles Patrolled...3414
Court Citations.....54
Alarm Responses....5
Written Warnings.....28
Vacations Watches....59
Suspicious Vehicles....25
Park checks...106
Criminal Offenses...1
Arrests....17



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



Congratulations to the Wine Walk's GO Kids table who won the cash vote on best wine of the evening. With their "Desperate Housewives" retro theme and costumes, GO Moms (pictured left to right) Amber Berend, Selena Crochet, Lissa Hutchison, Jennifer Osowski, Michele Jankowski, Brandy Groth, Sarah Heath, and Kerry Taylor were a big hit at a fabulous evening enjoyed by over 200 particpants.



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## NEW SENIOR COMMUNITY on W. 34th

by Kelly Schoon

An amenity-rich senior (55+) independent living community called The Orchard at Garden Oaks is rising at 880 W. 34<sup>th</sup> at Brinkman. The project is being developed by Orchard Communities, a local nonprofit that provides quality affordable homes and care to seniors with modest incomes (less than \$28,000 for a one-person household, \$32,000 for two persons). Rents will be on a sliding scale based on income.

The design of the community by award-winning Insite Architecture features an Arts and Crafts motif. Amenities include a salon, library with computers, a pool with a seating nook and shallow sun deck, coffee bar, fitness center, raised personal gardens, outdoor living room and fireplace, quarter-mile walking path, picnic areas, limited access gates, and a community room and kitchen for parties and gatherings. A lift-equipped bus will provide free scheduled transportation to area retail and health care services.

The events calendar will include Bible studies, wellness programs, fitness classes, water aerobics, potluck dinners, holiday parties, bunko, bingo, bridge, health screenings, financial planning assistance, arts and crafts classes, and organized outings.

Individual residences feature private porches, ceiling fans, large closets, built-in desks and bookshelves, individually controlled A/C and heating, Energy Star appliances, laundry centers, and acoustical windows. Some residences include mobility and hearing disability features. Private storage units will be available. The buildings feature fire alarm and sprinkler systems and a diesel generator for common area standby power.

The Orchard at Garden Oaks is designed to provide a supportive environment with a quality lifestyle to senior in a familiar neighborhood surrounded by family and friends. The community center is expected to open in early December, and the first residences should be available in early February.

To receive more information or put your name on the waiting list, please visit the property website at www.orchardgardenoaks.com or contact Kelly by phone at 713.861.3800 or email at kelly@orchardcommunities.org.



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two sides and a roll.

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## PHOTO OF THE MONTH





Marry and Merry Bear currently dressed as The Mad Hatter and The Queen of Hearts in honor of Tina Sabuco's Tina in Wonderland party celebrating her 50th birthday.

Tina and Shellye Arnold do their best to dress the bears at least once a month to honor seasons, holidays or special occasions. The bears have been living in their yard since their 5th wedding anniversary. Susan Kostelecky first dressed them as brides as a surprise to Shellye when Tina gave them to her in 2001.

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## AMERICAN LEGION EVENTS

by Jim Acker, Post 560 Historian

November is a big month at the Legion with the Marine Corps birthday, November 10, and Veteran's Day, November 11. To honor and celebrate these dates on Saturday, November 6, the post will show the Spielberg/Hanks HBO series *The Pacific* free of charge. The series is 6.5 hours long so only the first half will be shown on that day starting at 10 a.m. shortly after breakfast is served. (\$5 to nonmembers). The second half showing will be announced.

If you did not catch the HBO series, it is a classic, costing more than \$100 million to produce, a record for a TV movie. Come and see it on our big screen.

Following the film viewing WW II marines will be available to answer questions. This may be your only chance to hear about the history of these brave men. There will be a display of weapons and gear used during the war.

Saturday November 13 a team of attorneys will offer free legal advice for any veteran in Harris County. We encourage any veteran or spouse of a deceased veteran, wartime or not, to come by between 9 a.m. until noon to advantage of this service. Volunteer attorneys will give advice on issues such as family law, wills and probate, consumer issues, landlord/tenant law, worker's compensation, tax issues, bankruptcy, and veterans' benefits and disability claims.

Any veterans who need further legal representation and meet the eligibility requirements for the Houston Bar Association Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program may be assigned a pro bono attorney. The guidelines have been adjusted for veterans so that they may have income up to 300 percent above the poverty level and still gualify for services.

Sons of the American Legion are sponsoring a chili cook-off on November 13 with cash prizes and trophies for chili, beans, Bloody Marys, and showmanship. Team setup will begin Friday evening and all teams must be set up by 9 a.m. on Saturday. A taster's cup is \$3. The registration fee for contestants is \$25 for chili, \$10 for beans, \$5 for open category and \$5 for Bloody Mary. Come by for the fun or better yet, organize a team.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, war-time veterans organization, devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is a community-service organization which now numbers nearly 3 million members, men and women, in nearly 15,000 American Legion posts worldwide. American Legion Post 560 is located at 3720 Alba Road.



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## **CRITTER CORNER**

by Casey and Dorothy Dan Farris

It's November with pine trees shedding, football in high gear, turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie. With all the sights, sounds and smells, this is a month for all your senses. We know that all dogs have a great sense of smell, which is 50 to 100 times better than humans. Some dogs are focused totally on their sense of smell.

Not every dog thinks that a round of fetch is doggie nirvana, some would rather track interesting smells, or learn new tricks, some would rather dig a hole to China, and some, just want to watch *Animal Planet*. Dogs like to play differently, depending on their breed and their individual personality. Once you figure out which games wag your dog's tail, you can use them to give him exercise, mental stimulation, and a sense of purpose and there's the bonding that comes from having so much fun together.

## Critters 101: Games for the Nose

This dog-play personality spends much of his time focused on his sense of smell and will follow his nose anywhere. This dog is likely to come from a breed that was used to track scents, such as beagles, bassets or other hounds.

Training your nose dog to be a search and rescue dog is a huge commitment, but very rewarding if you've got the time and passion for it. Check out the National Association for Search and Rescue website to find out if it is for you.

Participate in tracking trials, which involve following a scent trail to find a deliberately lost person and any items she dropped. The American Kennel Club puts on tracking events for purebreds; local chapters of the Mixed Breed Dog Clubs of America do the same for mutts.

Create your own tracking game by asking your dog for a sit-stay outside, and walking through the grass to leave a scent trail. Leave a treat at the end of the trail, then retrace your steps and release your dog to find the treat.

Hide and seek is an easy and wonderful

game for the nose dog. Hide treats or favorite toys throughout your yard or house and let your dog sniff them out. You can hide yourself somewhere in the house and the nose dog will have to find you. It can take the form of hiding around the kitchen island, the around-and-about section of the house or in a closet.

Turn meals into treasure hunts by putting your dog's food bowl in a new spot and leaving a widely spaced trail of kibble to the bowl.

This dog will probably sniff until he collapses from exhaustion and will sniff anything and everything, so let him and get creative. When you are with him and it is his time - show him everything – he will love you for it. Remember the philosophy that a tired dog is a happy dog.

In hot weather avoid heavy exercise, give your dog plenty of water, and be alert to signs of heat stress, such as glassy eyes and heavy panting. Short-nosed breeds like Pugs and Bulldogs are especially vulnerable to overheating. Build up your dog's exercise routine gradually. Playing weekend warrior can result in torn ligaments and other injuries for both of you.

Casey Farris is owner/operator of Bone Voyage Pet Sitting Services©, and Go Dog USA, Garden Oaks companies offering many services and products dedicated to the welfare of our pets and the people who love them. Dorothy Dan Farris is owner/operator of Casey. Please forward your questions and pet news to Casey@goDOGusa.com or call 713.688.6363.









# **NOVEMBER 2010**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Civic Club Mtg 7pm	3	4	5	6 American Legion "The Pacific" movie showing,10am
7	8	9 GO Kids MNO 7pm, Collina's, 502 W. 19th	10	11	12	13American Legion veteran free legal advice 9am - noon and chili cook-off
14	15	16	17 GOMO meeting	18 GO Kids Dad's Night Out, 7pm, Petrol Station	19	20 Devil Rays baseball BBQ fundraiser 10 am, American Legion
21	22	23	24	25 Happy Thanksgiving	26	27
28	29	30				



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