

# GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

VOLUME 36

ISSUE 09

## FOURTH ANNUAL WINE WALK TICKETS NOW ON SALE

**Constable Program Fundraiser**

*By Dian Austin*

Here's what we've all been waiting for: tickets to the Garden Oaks 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Walk! Be one of the first to mail in your check along with the ticket form accompanying this article (or download the form at [www.gardenoaks.org](http://www.gardenoaks.org)) to guarantee your spot at our Constable Program Fun and Fundraiser. Only 200 tickets will be sold, and we've sold out quickly every year.

**Date:** Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, from 4-6 pm. (Rain date Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Tickets:** Limited to the first 200 people to respond. Ticket prices are \$50 each, which entitles you to admission and 2 hours of fun.

**What:** 13 of our generous neighbors and businesses are each supplying at least a case of wine for you to taste. Most will be supplying delectable foods as well.

**Theme:** Mediterranean Magic, featuring wines from countries that border the Mediterranean.

**Where:** 744 West 43<sup>rd</sup>, the lush backyard of Ed and Brenda de Alba  
*Continued on page 16*

## SEPT 2012

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Civic Club Meeting and Opportunity to Meet the Candidates**

September 4, 7 pm  
Garden Oaks Elementary School

#### **Neighbors Night Out**

October 2

#### **GOMO Annual Meeting**

October 17, 7 pm

#### **Wine Walk**

October 20, 4 - 6pm

### VOLUNTEER NEEDED

#### **Gazette Delivery Coordinator**

see page 6 for more information

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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.

- 858 West 42<sup>nd</sup>
- 842 West 42<sup>nd</sup>
- 987 West 41<sup>st</sup>
- 1011 Lamonte
- 918 West 41<sup>st</sup>
- 902 West 43<sup>rd</sup>
- 228 West 33<sup>rd</sup>

**September Birthdays**

- Janice Walden—4th
- Rita Hartman—8th
- John Beddow—22nd
- Mark Swick—26th

**Happy Anniversary**

- Trent and Megan Salch - 5th
- Phil Ramirez and Gina Pecoraro -7th
- Rick and Tonya Knauth—29th

**Congratulations**

**Matilde Acosta** on her Silver Medal at Houston's Jr. Olympics

**Out and About**

**The McLean family** enjoyed time at the London Olympics viewing swimming events.  
**Sarah McGee Heath and Cory Heath** enjoyed a recent adventure at the Lone Star Circus School in Dallas.  
**Jessica and Eric Jarvis** traveled to a family reunion in Ohio.  
**Tina Sabuco and Shellye Arnold** enjoyed a trip to the Pacific Northwest and San Francisco where they stopped by Berkley to see Tina's 16 year old cousin in the lead role in Sweeney Todd.  
**Michael Beard** ventured to Boston and also enjoyed a whale watching trip.  
**The Klein family** enjoyed a trip to Santa Barbara.  
**The McKeown family** ventured to Mobile Alabama before the start of

school.

**Robert Deveau** traveled to Long Beach, California and is happy he is healing well from an injury to his left patella.  
**The O'Leary- Appling** household traveled to the New York RenFest.  
**Miranda Leonard** had a great time in Pensacola.

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

**Emergency Numbers**

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

**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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**PHOTOS OF THE MONTH**



Garden Oaks resident, 10 year old Lucy McLean, successfully entered her first Scottish Highland Games in July! She entered the Inveraray Highland Games, in Scotland, finishing with two first and two second places, best overall dancer in her age group and best overseas dancer! Not bad for a Texan!



Garden Oaks Elementary 4th grader, Matilde Acosta shows off her silver medal with Master Portal at Apex TaeKwonDo. Matilde recently earned her silver medal in Taekwon-Do forms at the AAU Junior Olympics. This year's Junior Olympics were held in Houston at the George R Brown Convention Center.

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Terms expire October of year in parentheses.



**GO CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES**

by Heather Leverett, Secretary

**Location: Garden Oaks Elementary School August 7, 2012**

**Welcome: President Mark Klein** called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., proclaiming it **Joe Muscara Night**.

A big thank you to **Brother's Pizzeria** (shopping center at Shepherd & 38<sup>th</sup>) for providing delicious New York style pizza for everyone attending the meeting!

A motion was made and carried to accept the June minutes as published in the *Gazette*, as the July meeting was cancelled.

**President's Announcements:**

**Candidate Forum:** President Klein is planning a candidate forum for the September meeting. **Drought Plan:** The City of Houston has proposed changes with regards to the drought plan. Details are available online at [www.publicworks.houstontx.gov](http://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov).

**Gazette Delivery Coordinator:** The neighborhood needs someone to take over the coordination of the Gazette delivery, a project vitally important to the GOCC. Responsibilities include delivering the Gazettes to the Gazette block captains of each section once a month.

**Houston Council Member Ellen Cohen** attended the meeting. She spoke about multiple topics. Highlights included:

**GOMO Review Meetings**

take place prior to Civic Club meetings at 6:30p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month and on the third Wednesday of the month.

Meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. Additional information about the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization is online at [GardenOaks.org](http://GardenOaks.org). Property owners in Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 are all members of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization.

**311:** If you are not getting feedback on progress call her office directly with the 311 case number that was assigned to you. **Water Line Replacement:** All work will be completed by October 2012. The City will be touring the area to ensure that everything is returned to the original condition. **City Council Meetings:** Please attend or watch on TV to understand what is going on in the City. **Cohen Ambassador Program:** Council Member Cohen has created an ambassador program to improve communication between her office and the neighborhoods in District C. President Klein has volunteered to be the representative for Garden Oaks.. **2012 Wine Walk:** Council Member Cohen concluded her visit by stepping up to be a silver sponsor for the 2012 Wine Walk.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**GO Citizens Patrol:** Carl Waters reported seven crimes in June and seven in July. Residential crimes are still occurring between early morning to mid afternoon. While the main days are Tuesdays and Thursdays, recently there is no defined pattern. The number of patrollers has increased, but more are always welcome. Overall, crime is up this year compared to the same time last year.

**Constable Program:** No update.

**Membership:** Betsy Stein won a Lowe's gift card. Dian Austin reminded everyone that 2012 Wine Walk tickets go on sale September 1. The Wine Walk is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm in the generously donated backyard of Ed and Brenda de Alba. Proceeds benefit the Garden Oaks Constable Program. Sponsors will receive their logo/name on a sign and free tickets, depending upon the size of sponsorship. The Wine Walk is currently being promoted and is expected to sell out. All the table sponsors have been identified, but a backup or two is needed. **Beautification:** No update.

**Gazette:** An assistant editor is still needed to support publication efforts. If interested, or know someone who could help, please email [gazette@gardenoaks.org](mailto:gazette@gardenoaks.org).

**GardenOaks.org Website:** No update.

**GOMO Update:** GOMO's annual meeting is in October. Funds may be available to be allocated toward specific neighborhood projects and will be discussed at the meeting. Additional discussion occurred about deed restrictions and what could be done to manage violations in Section 4.

**Garden Oaks Elementary:** Principal Lindsey Pollock made a number of announcements. Highlights include: **Real Men Read:** The school needs men to volunteer to be role models for this program. The time commitment is minimal. The payoff to children is high. **Stephen Covey Grant:** The school has received a grant from the Stephen Covey foundation and is implementing "The Leader in Me" program based on Covey's book. **HISD Bond Proposal:** Garden Oaks is included on a bond proposal which would convert the school to Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade focused on Montessori. As a result, the school could receive \$30MM in funding to invest in a school with outdated infrastructure, technology and traffic

flow. The tax impact to homeowners would be about \$100/year. Discussion about traffic, investment, and the impact to the school occurred. There is a link on the HISD website with additional information, and the board can be contacted to share your opinion for or against the bond. Spark Park Shade Cover: Bids for the shade cover are \$5-7K. The PTO does not have that amount of money so they are working on a grant for the funds. In addition, the 2012 GO Home Tour Committee previously voted to donate five percent of the proceeds of the tour to the shade cover project. The shade cover is to help replace the tree shade lost at the park during the drought.

**GODAT Update:** Secretary Heather Leverett reported that GODAT has three of the financial reports created in the database. The Website has not been moved to a new provider, but this should be completed before the next meeting.

**Treasurer's Update:** Treasurer Phil Ramirez reported that the financials are status quo for this time of year. The Constable is fully funded through next month. Additional donations are needed.

A representative from a local organization, the Houston Sports and Social Club, attended the meeting and announced that he is coordinating support and working with the City to get improvements in our local parks.

President Klein adjourned the meeting at 8:04 pm. More about the Candidates for September 4th meeting on page 6.

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**GAZETTE DELIVERY COORDINATOR NEEDED**

by Dian Austin

If you are reading your hard copy of the *Gazette*, it was delivered to your door by one of our 41 block captains. Block captains are neighborhood volunteers that each month deliver newsletters door to door to at least one, sometimes two, blocks of Garden Oaks. This saves the civic club the cost of mailing 1400+ newsletters monthly.

The Gazettes are printed by our neighbor Oscar Ochoa (OD's Printing). Each month Oscar's team bundles the Gazettes for each of the routes and delivers the bundles to my front door; each bundle has a cover letter on it denoting the block captain, route delivered, and the number of Gazettes on that route. Then, I sort the bundles by each of the five sections of Garden Oaks and deliver them to the section coordinators:

- Section 1/1A –Lynda Spinks
- Section 2 - Mel Johnson
- Section 3 - Jim Willburn
- Section 4 - Linda Sparks
- Section 5 – Sheree' Peoples

Each of the coordinators above then quickly delivers the bundled Gazettes to each of the block captains in their respective sections, so that hopefully all residents can receive them prior to the Civic Club meeting on the first Tuesday of each month.

But...I've done the job of Gazette Delivery Coordinator for almost 4 years. It's time for someone else to take over the role.

The Gazette Delivery Coordinator job description includes:

- Maintaining a cadre of block captains and finding replacements when one is out of town, moves from the neighborhood, etc.
- Keeping up-to-date block captain cover letters to reflect the correct name/address of the block captain and the number of newsletters needed on that route.
- Providing correct sets of block captain cover letters to the printer.
- Sorting the bundled Gazettes by section and delivering them promptly to the section coordinators.
- Finding back-ups for the delivery coordinators as needed, (or else delivering the bundles yourself).
- Maintaining some kind of recognition for the block captain team.

I will work with any interested person(s) to ensure a simple and easy transition, but I absolutely will retire as of the end of this year, replacement or not.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, please email me at [FallingwaterT@yahoo.com](mailto:FallingwaterT@yahoo.com) or call 713-691-6505. The only requirement is that you be a Garden Oaks resident and be committed to getting the bundled Gazettes delivered timely to all the block captains. Having a covered porch would be a definite plus, as the Gazettes are delivered around the last weekend of the month, and it has been known to rain at delivery time.

**2012 CANDIDATES SCHEDULED TO VISIT SEPTEMBER 4TH CIVIC CLUB MEETING**

by Mark Klein, GOCC President

The 2012 Republican and Democrat Candidates for Harris Constable Precinct 1 will discuss their positions and answer questions during the next Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 4, at the Garden Oaks Elementary School. Sean Seibert, the GOP candidate vying for Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee's District 18 seat, will also appear. Other candidates have been invited and may make appearances.

Brother's Pizza at 3820 N. Shepherd will provide some New York-style pizza pies to get the meeting started (until supplies last). Come out to the September GOCC meeting and hear what your candidates have to say.

As is tradition, there will be no GOCC October meeting so Civic Club members can participate in the National Night Out festivities held throughout the neighborhood.



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**CITIZENS PATROL PROGRAM**

by Carl Waters Jr.

For the past two months I have been mentioning National Night Out in my article. National Night Out in Texas will be held on **Tuesday, October 2**. This year will be the **29th Annual Celebration of National Night Out**. The program was designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participate in local crime prevention programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with traditional displays such as outdoor lighting and front porch vigils; cities, towns and neighborhoods celebrate National Night Out with a variety of events and activities such as block parties,

cookouts, visits from local police, constables and sheriff departments, parades, exhibits, flashlight walks, contests and youth programs. However you decide to celebrate please share your plans with Terry Jeanes or myself so we can attempt to have HPD or a Constable Officer to stop by for a brief visit.

**July Crime Statistics (6)**

**Burglary (4)**

- 900 block of Gardenia Dr. on Sunday, July 8 at 5:00 a.m. (residence).
- 200 block of W. 32nd St. on Thursday, July 12 at Noon (residence).
- 800 block of W. 43rd St. on Tuesday, July 17 at 10:23 a.m. (residence).
- 3000 block of N. Durham Dr. on Tuesday, July 24 at 7:00 p.m. (store).

**Theft (2)**

- 3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Tuesday, July 10 at 9:00 a.m. (Bar/Restaurant).

800 block of W. 30th St. on Saturday, July 21 at 12:23 p.m. (driveway).

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](mailto:GOCOP77018@AOL.com) or by phone at 713-864-1992.

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**GOMO UPDATE**  
**Annual Meeting to be Held**  
**October 17**

The Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization's annual meeting will be held 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 17 at Garden Oaks Elementary. We welcome all Section 1, 2, 3, and 5 homeowners to the business meeting. Election of several Directors and voting on disbursement of surplus funds is on the agenda. If you are interested in being a board member please contact any of the GOMO Directors listed in the Gazette.

**Director Positions Open**

Below is a list of the Director positions that will be filled at the annual meeting.

**Section 1**

The Director position previously held by Melissa Haselden is vacant.

The term for this position ends in October of 2013. The Director position currently held by Mark Saranie is up for election. The term for this position ends in October of 2015.

**Section 2**

The Director position previously held by Adrian Berry is vacant. The term for this position ends in October of 2014. The term of the position currently held by Gale Gorman ends October 31. The term for this position will run through October of 2015.

**Section 3**

The Director position currently held by Daniel Horowitz ends October 31. The term for this position ends in October of 2015.

**Section 5**

The Director position currently held by Jim Willburn ends October 31. The term for this position runs

through October of 2015.

**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 for which you are volunteering.
- 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 one year.

**Surplus Funds**

GOMO traditionally uses surplus funds to support neighborhood

get your questions answered.

The GOMO Board is made up of 12 people and the Board doesn't have an "opinion" about a topic unless a majority of a quorum forms a consensus view. So no one Board Member is able to tell you what GOMO "thinks" about an issue or idea until we have an opportunity to deliberate and form a collective opinion. The formation of GOMO policy and opinion takes place at 7 p.m. 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 very welcome to attend, make suggestions, propose ideas, ask questions, clarify rumors, or simply observe the process.

projects that are endorsed by a majority vote of its membership. GOMO has surplus funds available for disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

GOMO currently supports two Constable Patrols in Garden Oaks as well as maintenance of neighborhood green spaces. A ballot with this year's proposed disbursement will be mailed to all GOMO members prior to the annual meeting.

**An Open Invitation to our Meetings**

All GOMO Members are invited to attend 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

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**A-GO GO MONTHLY MEETING**

by Tina Sabuco

The "Alzheimer's Group of Garden Oaks" (aka "A Go Go"), a support group for family and friends with loved ones who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia, has been meeting on the first Monday of the month since May. We welcome anyone to join us, be it for a singular meeting or on a regular basis.

The September meeting date will be moved from the 1st Monday, which is Labor Day, to the **2nd Monday** of the month, which is **September 10th**. Our meetings are from 7:00 – 9:00 PM at 859 Azalea Street, the home of Tina Sabuco, who is also the foundress of the group. Please make a note that future meetings for 2012 will be held

on the first Monday of each month.

If you are interested in joining us and would like to rsvp to an upcoming meeting or if you have any questions, contact Tina at [goddess@abundanceretreat.com](mailto:goddess@abundanceretreat.com) or 713-692-6778.



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**YARD OF THE MONTH: 978 West 42nd Street**



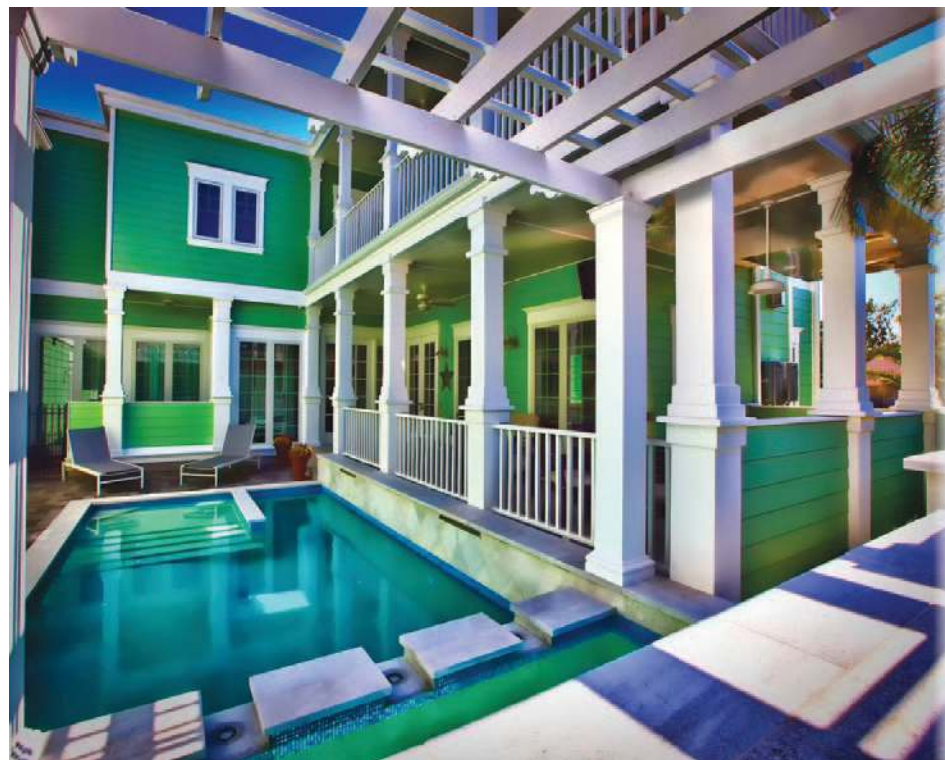
The GOGC Yard of the Month is 978 West 42nd Street. There is beautiful xeriscaping in the front front section of lawn, with prickly pear cactus, Pride of Barbados, oleander, and other water-wise plants. By the front door are gorgeous drought tolerant knock-out roses, Yellow Esperanza, a sago palm and cannas. A very water-saving combination that looks totally tropical!

**GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS**

- President**  
Cathy Wahren 713.686.8686  
[catalinaw2@yahoo.com](mailto:catalinaw2@yahoo.com)
- Vice President/Communications**  
Chris Lindsay 713.819.8412  
[Chris.Lindsay@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Chris.Lindsay@sbcglobal.net)
- Treasurer**  
Robert DeVeau 832.659.7797  
[RobertDeveau@sbcglobal.net](mailto:RobertDeveau@sbcglobal.net)
- Secretary**  
Mary Lynn Porter



The **September 13th Meeting** will be held in Friendship Park which is maintained by the Garden Club. Meeting attendees will have the opportunity to paint tiles to support the GOES Beautification Committee's Paver Project. Friendship Park is located 1 block east of Shepherd at W. 30th and Lawrence.



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**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

**Pre-Kindergarten - 8th Grade**

St. Mark Lutheran School is accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year.

Our faith-infused curriculum (for 6 months - 8th grade) is enriched with hands-on activities, educational field trips and opportunities to serve our community. Along with high academic standards, competitive athletics, computer-assisted learning and a diverse fine arts program, our dedicated teachers know their students personally and give them the guidance, encouragement and challenges they need to realize their potential.

**Are you looking for a school that shares your family values, lifestyle and faith?**

To schedule a personal tour, call 713 468 2623 or email us at [admissions@gostmark.org](mailto:admissions@gostmark.org).



**7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE STUDENTS**

by Lindsey Pollack

Garden Oaks Elementary is the recipient of a Covey Institute Foundation grant to support teachers and staff in the implementation of the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Steven Covey. The grant represents a significant investment by the Covey Foundation through professional development and training materials to bring the Seven Habits to our school community including stakeholders. During the week of August 13-16 sixty-five participants met with national trainers from the Covey Institute to collaborate on the vision for the school and the individual work around the Seven Habits. In September, the campus Implementation Day will formally mark the campus-wide dedication to the children's version of the Seven Habits through the Leader in Me.

The skills that will be embedded in the daily lives of the school community include:

**Habit 1 Be Proactive—You're in Charge**

I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes, and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong actions. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

**Habit 2 Begin with the End in Mind—Have a Plan**

I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission and vision. I look for ways to be a good citizen.

**Habit 3 Put First Things First—Work First, Then Play**

I spend my time on things that are most important. This means I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule, and

follow my plan. I am disciplined and organized.

**Habit 4 Think Win-Win—Everyone Can Win**

I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I make deposits in others' Emotional Bank Accounts. When conflicts arise, I look for third alternatives

**Habit 5 Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood—Listen Before You Talk**

I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking.

**Habit 6 Synergize—Together Is Better**

I value other people's strengths and learn from them. I get along well with others, even people who are different than me. I work well in groups. I seek

**2012 HISD BOND PROPOSAL GOES TO THE VOTERS**

by Lindsey Pollack

The HISD School Board Trustees voted this month to put a school bond to the voters this November. Garden Oaks Elementary is part of the HISD bond proposal that would include new facilities for our school. While the average taxpayer's financial commitment would amount to approximately \$75/year, the investment at Garden Oaks would support the campus' capacity to accommodate PreKindergarten to 8th grade classes. In addition to space, what improvements could our children receive from the bond proposal?

- Classrooms with consistently working air conditioning and heating
- Adequate restrooms (we currently have 3 for 675 students)
- Functional traffic flow and access

to the campus, alleviating congestion and improving safety

- Handicap parking access
- Adequate internet and electrical access in the computer lab and classrooms
- Cafeteria and library facility upgrades

These are some examples of the impact of the investment of the bond on our neighborhood school; however, the bond proposal also addresses crumbling high schools including Waltrip, the "feeder" high school for Garden Oaks. If you would like to tour the school or discuss the potential impact for the community, please feel free to call or stop by the school! Your participation in the election is critical no matter what your decision. The bond proposal will be at the end of the ballot so be sure to scroll all the way to the end!

out other people's ideas to solve problems because I know that by teaming with others we can create better solutions than anyone of us can alone. I am humble.

**Habit 7 Sharpen The Saw—Balance Feels Best**

I take care of my body by eating right, exercising and getting sleep. I spend time with family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. I find meaningful ways to help others.

These Seven Habits represent timeless principles that will support our children's entry into the global society of the 21st Century! Watch for more news about the work around these 7 Habits and the impact on families and communities that integrate these keys into daily living!

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**THE TWELFTH ANNUAL XTREME HUMMINGBIRD XTRAVAGANZA**

Gulf Coast Bird Observatory in Lake Jackson  
**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8 & 15 - FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL NOON!**  
from [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org)

Autumn is hummingbird season in Texas, as thousands of these tiny creatures move through the state on their southward migration to Mexico and Central America. Nature enthusiasts welcome them with old-fashioned Texas hospitality, readying their gardens of nectar-producing plants and putting up special feeders filled with fresh sugar water.

"Essentially, all the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds that breed in the eastern half of the United States and Canada—estimated at 7.3 million—migrate along the shores of the Gulf of Mexico each fall," says John Arvin, the Observatory's Research Coordinator. The male hummers grab your attention with their striking throat feathers, which act like a prism to bend light into a shimmering red spectrum. Females and juveniles lack the scarlet throat - though juvenile males often show red dots on the throat. But they all have one purpose - engorging enough nectar to bulk up their body fat so they'll have enough fuel for their migratory flight.

Many Ruby-throats will travel 600 miles straight across the Gulf to the Yucatan Peninsula, and some will fly around the edges of the Gulf to points in Mexico. All will ultimately wind up in southern Mexico and Central America, as far south as Costa Rica, for the winter.

You can watch the thumb-sized hummers at the Observatory dart in and out of nectar-producing flowers like  
*(Continued on Page 19)*

**GO KIDS UPDATE**

by Kristin Jordan

Thanks to all of the families who attended the Back to School Potluck. It was so fun to meet so many new families and see old faces. The children had a great time riding the train around the park, getting their faces painted and bouncing around. Our next potluck will be the first Saturday in December. Save the date for a jolly good time.

Photos of the August 28th potluck on opposite page.

**Upcoming Events**

**Mom's Night Out – September 13th – Shady Tavern 7:30pm**

1206 West 20th Street Houston, TX 77008 (713) 869-7000

**Friday Fun Day** – Come join us for a playdate on Friday September 28th at 9:30am at Stomping Grounds Playland in Sugarland! I know this is bit far from GO but it is the best indoor play area in Houston!

Moms can sit, relax, and have coffee while the kids play!

Admission:

Babies (under 1): FREE

Toddlers (ages 1 and 2): \$4.25

Kids (ages 3 and up): \$7.25

Adults: FREE

Don't forget to wear socks!

**Playgroups – GO Babies & Buddies**

are having playdates every two weeks, so watch your calendar for some fun mommy and kiddo time!

**Weight Loss Challenge:**

We need a new coordinator for the Garden Oaks weight loss challenge. Please contact Devin at [devin@provishr.com](mailto:devin@provishr.com) or 832-647-9405 if you are interested in taking on the fun role.

**Running Club:**

Running club generally meets every Tuesday at 8:30pm in Section 1. Interested in joining? Contact Devin at [devin@provishr.com](mailto:devin@provishr.com) or 832-647-9405.

**Firefly Run**

Let's get a group together for the Firefly 5k on November 3<sup>rd</sup> benefitting the Houston Food bank. Note – it is an evening run involving glow sticks...fun!!! We could probably even win the costume contest. Registration begins July 18<sup>th</sup> Register online at [www.fireflyrun.com/houston.htm](http://www.fireflyrun.com/houston.htm) and email me so we can coordinate a group presence!

Charged only by the moon, glowing costumes, and a desire to help local charities, participants in the Firefly Run take over their city streets for friendly 5K competition. During the race, runners cut through the cool night air decked out in incandescent gear, leaving little neon trails behind them like a gaggle of baby comets. Participants are encouraged to sign up in teams and coordinate outfits for the post-race costume contest, and DJs gather around the finish line to welcome them back from moonlit journeys.

**Cookbook** –Order today at [GardenOaksCooks.com](http://GardenOaksCooks.com). All proceeds go to the Garden Oaks Constable Program

**Bouncy House** – We are still collecting bouncy house money. It is a \$30 donation.

Payment by mail (check or cash):  
Kristin Jordan  
4223 Apollo Street  
Houston, TX 77018

Payment By Paypal (credit/debit):

[gardenoakskids.com](http://gardenoakskids.com)

**Website / Communication –**

[www.gardenoakskids.com](http://www.gardenoakskids.com)  
Our website continues to grow; now offering information on contributing to our annual bouncy house fund, and purchasing your Garden Oaks Cookbook. Check it out and share with your friends.

**Dinner Drops**

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, Angelica Sullivan, at [angelicapuerto@hotmail.com](mailto:angelicapuerto@hotmail.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 Kristin Jordan ([kriki@me.com](mailto:kriki@me.com)) or Ashley Henke ([ashleymariehenke@gmail.com](mailto:ashleymariehenke@gmail.com)) for all the details.*

**Security Alerts Via Email**

Are you interested in receiving SECURITY ALERTS and other key community notifications electronically?

In order to be included in our email distributions please send in your name, address and email address to [secretary@gardenoaks.org](mailto:secretary@gardenoaks.org) to sign up.

With the new advancements in our community's technology (GODAT project), we will be able to provide you with emails about CRIME and NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES so that you are easily and quickly informed.



Sponsor Terry Jeanes and the sergeant complete fingerprinting ID kits for each child.



Stella Roca and Payton Jordan have their faces painted.

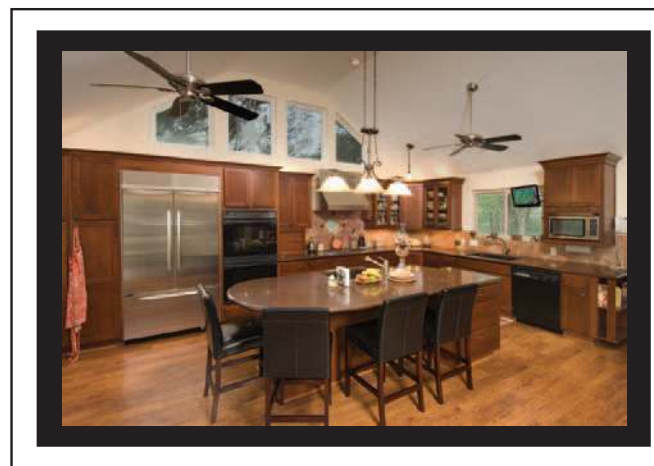


Activities for all ages and interests.



The Back to School Potluck was sponsored by State Farm Insurance and Terry Jeanes - ReMax./Metro.

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**GARDEN OAKS NEWS**

Timely information about information and events can be found on the Garden Oaks Yahoo group which can be found at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Houston\\_GO](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Houston_GO).

Also join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/)

**GARDEN OAKS OUTREACH**

Classified Ads are \$20 per run for residents, and are for personal services only (help wanted, items for sale, infant care needed, etc.).



**Wine Walk** continued from pg 1

**Why:** To raise money for our constable program. Each year our funds generally run low in the fall and this event helps us contribute to the program, ensuring that we have constable patrols almost 24/7 in our neighborhood. And it's a fun way to meet your neighbors!

**Rules:** This is a private adults-only event. No one under 21 years of age allowed. No pets and no smoking.

Once you have purchased your tickets, you will receive confirmation by email. Ticket purchasers' names will be on a list at the check-in table. Upon



arrival, you will be given your wine glass and may freely meander about the beautifully landscaped backyard, view the koi pond, visit with your neighbors, and taste some wonderful wines.

Many thanks to our generous Wine Walk Sponsors:

**\$500 Gold Sponsor**  
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Ellen Cohen, Houston City Council District C  
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Molly's Mutt House  
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Mutt House Relief Effort

Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic  
Pat Walker, Keller Williams – Metropolitan

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Mathew Naftis, D.D.S.  
Merle Norman Cosmetics & Gift Boutique

Providing fun and wines are these generous Table Hosts:


1. Heidi and Stuart Arouty
2. Tina Rowe and Jim Dicola
3. "Aged to Perfection" – Peggy Smith, Pamela Parks and Teresa Coleman
4. Soluton Builders/Dara and Laura Childs, and Lesli Dabney Photography

5. Facundo Home Builders – Miguel Facundo
6. Danyel T. Ramelow, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones (GO Shopping Center)
7. La Fuente Winery
8. SK Designs/Susan Kostelecky
9. Garden Oaks Vineyard/The Renos
10. Karie and Alyn Goad and Kimberley and Daniel Horowitz
11. The Altheans - Desiree Guillory, Chavonne Slovak, Liz Terrell,

Helen Crotak, and Carmen Busceme  
12. GO Kids  
13. GO Red Hot Chili Peppers – Ron and Sheree' Peoples, Emilio and Patti Chemali, and Francisca and Jeff Webster  
  
Committee members include:  
Leslie Saunders, who provided the artwork

Shelley Rogers  
Brenda de Alba  
Sheila Briones  
Sandy Altman  
Dian Austin  
Jessica Jarvis  
Dea Larson  
Tina Rowe  
  
So, come on out and join in the fun and help raise money for the constable program!





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## 2012 Garden Oaks Wine Walk

### Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 PM

### 744 W. 43rd St.

Ticket sales limited to the first 200 to respond.  
This is an ADULTS only event (age 21 or older).

\_\_\_ Yes! Reserve \_\_\_ tickets @ \$50.00 ea. for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(NOTE: This is the name in which your tickets will be held in will call)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_ No, I cannot attend, but enclosed is a donation to the Garden Oaks Civic Club of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be applied to the Constable Program

Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to:

Garden Oaks Civic Club  
P.O. Box 10273  
Houston, TX 77206

We will acknowledge your ticket order via e-mail or by phone.  
Rain date is Saturday, Nov. 3. Sorry, no refunds.

Thank you!



2012 GO Wine Walk

featuring wines of the Mediterranean

**CRITTER CORNER**

by Casey and Dorothy Dan Farris

Wow, I can't believe school has started! Hot weather is still with us this month so keep those pets hydrated. Does your dog burrow in the covers? Some dogs are more prone to burrowing than others so this month Dorothy and I explore the act of burrowing. Our pet of the month earned her nickname, "Wiggle Worm," from her burrowing ritual.

**Pet of the Month:** "Miss September" is Zoey Gibson-Leventhal (Sheltie) who is 12 years old and lives with her parents, Katie and Seth, in Section V. Zoey was adopted from the Houston Sheltie Sanctuary seven years ago. Zoey and her parents lived in several apartments before settling in Garden Oaks and she enjoys her big yard and dog-friendly neighborhood despite being afraid of grass. She often sits just outside

her front door, sunning herself while watching the world go by or sniffing the air when there is a breeze.

Zoey, who is often mistaken for a puppy, loves so many things like egg whites for breakfast, running full speed to the closest human lap, or digging and wiggling in her bedding like Curly from the *Three Stooges*. She loves all animals, big and small, dog or cat, but really loves meeting new humans the most. At dog parks she bounces from person to person for head scratches and she makes friends easily with her infectious snaggle-tooth smile and her bright eyes, one of which is blue while the other is brown.

Katie and Seth are grateful for Zoey's antics each day, even when she gets up extra early. Each day is the best day she has ever known. She has been through a lot; Sheltie rescue, adoption, treatment for heartworms, and near death when one lung tore and collapsed. She has bounced back from it all and continues to bounce into people's laps and hearts. She spreads joy and love from the moment she awakens each day with a wiggle until she burrows each night in her bed.

What a sweet precious dog in our midst?! The name Zoe is Greek, meaning "life." I'd say our Zoey has life by the tail!

**Critters 101:** The Burrowing Epidemic

Most of us dog lovers enjoy seeing our dogs digging around in the covers looking for that perfect place to crawl into and go to sleep or having a cuddle buddy in bed at night right under the blankets with you. Other dog owners prefer to keep their pups out of the blankets and can't figure out why burrowing

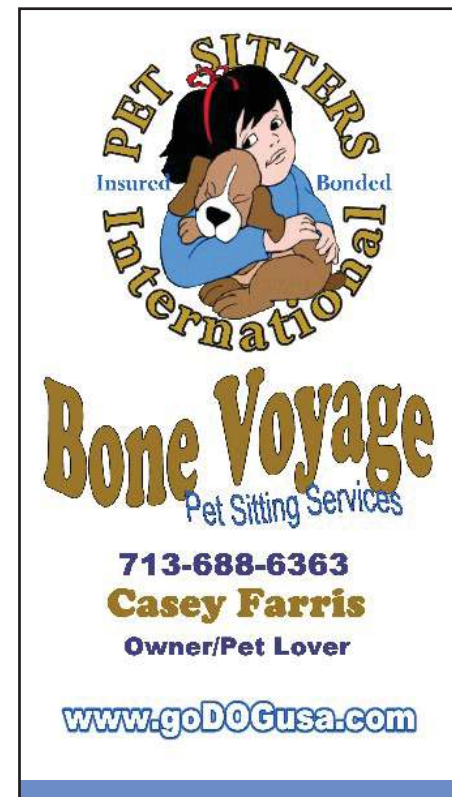
is such a habit. For everyone out there, here is the answer!

Dogs are den animals which means their instinct is to sleep or relax in a small, covered space such as a cave or other type of den that wild canines make into their homes. Even though Rover is now domesticated and probably would look confused if put into a real den, he still has those instincts. Small, tight spaces help to make your dog feel safe and secure. You may find he does this more when he's scared such as during a thunderstorm. Being hidden by the blankets gives him that extra sense of security.

Other dogs burrow to sleep, to hide their toys and bones or just for fun. Smaller dogs are usually prone to burrow more such as the Terriers, Chihuahuas and Hounds. But bigger dogs are known to burrow as well, especially Huskies. For Huskies, this is probably more instinct than anything else. Having been used to work and live in bitterly cold temperatures for years and years, Huskies learned to burrow under the snow to help keep warm and go undetected by predators while they slept.

If your dog is known to burrow and you're trying to keep your blankets free of his hair, try getting him his own large sized bed with his own blanket. This will help to keep him off of yours but still give him a nice, comfortable, warm and safe place to cuddle up and blow some Z's.

Casey Farris is owner/operator of Bone Voyage Pet Sitting Services which has been servicing Garden Oaks for 11 years now. Dorothy Dan is owner/operator of Casey. Please forward your questions and pet news to [Casey@GoDogUSA.com](mailto:Casey@GoDogUSA.com) or call 713-688-6363.



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Casey Farris  
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**Hummingbirds** cont. from pg 13.

lantana, trumpet-vine, and honeysuckle, or you'll spy them sipping nectar at feeders hanging from tree limbs and building awnings.

Better yet, you'll enjoy seeing a bird-bander hold a tiny hummingbird while taking measurements of the bird, weighing it, and clamping a thin, number-coded band on one of

its teensy-weensy legs. (Adapted from "Hum's the Word," by Gary Clark, *Texas Highways Magazine*, July, 2006)

Come on out and watch the banding, adopt a hummingbird, browse the Nature Store, walk the nature trails, or buy a plant to attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Each week will include an informative lecture:

**September 8** - Winter Hummingbirds by Susan Heath




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**September 15** - Hummingbird Gardening by Barbara Burkhardt

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW** and join us in September! Go to [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org) for a printable map to our Sanctuary or call (979) 480-0999 for directions. Your attendance will support coastal bird conservation.



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Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 ¼ W x 2 3/8 H	\$60.00	\$300.00	\$580.00
2 1/4 W x 4 1/4 H	\$90.00	\$450.00	\$870.00
Half Page 7 ½ W X 4 ½ H	\$110.00	\$550.00	\$1065.00
Full Page 7 ½ W x 9 ½ H	\$180.00	\$900.00	\$1745.00
Half Page Back Cover	\$150.00	\$750.00	
Full Page Back Cover	\$225.00	\$1125.00	
Inserts (full page only, single sided)			\$180.00
Inserts (double sided)			\$225.00

1. Placement of the ad is at the discretion of the editor.
2. Camera-ready artwork must be submitted by the 15th of each month for publication the following month and emailed to: [gazette@gardenoaks.org](mailto:gazette@gardenoaks.org)
3. Artwork must be emailed in the following formats: JPEG (.jpg) or GIF (.gif)

### ARTS ALIVE! IN MANY NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS

by Tina Sabuco

The ARTS ALIVE! "Education through Imagination" Expressive Arts Program, created by Garden Oaks resident, Tina Sabuco, has been invited to be a part of over 350 schools and organizations over its 18 years of changing the lives of Houston's children. Our unique, research-based curriculum integrates all of the expressive arts – Creative Drama, Creative Movement, Dance, Music and

Visual Art. Children in our program improve their ability to engage in the learning process through developing their social, motor, language, and cognitive skills.

ARTS ALIVE! is excited to announce that we are preparing for our biggest and best school year ever! We have gotten many requests to expand our program so more neighborhood children will be able to participate in our classes. Your wish is our command! Starting this month, ARTS ALIVE! is now being

offered in a record 8 schools in our area. The schools include:

- Durham Elementary -- Pre K – 2nd
- Garden Oaks Elementary -- Pre K – 2nd
- Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool -- Toddlers – 5 year olds
- Happy Times Academy -- Toddlers – 2nd (2 classes)
- Oak Forest Elementary -- Pre K – 2nd
- St. Matthews United Methodist CDC -- Toddlers – 5 year olds (2 classes)
- Three R's Plus Montessori -- Toddlers – 5 year olds
- Travis Elementary -- Pre K – 2nd



**Arts Alive!**  
 Education through Imagination  
 If you don't see YOUR school mentioned above, it's not too late!  
 For more information including start dates, day, time, how to enroll and/or questions, go to our website at [www.artsaliveinc.com](http://www.artsaliveinc.com) or call our office at 713-699-9933.

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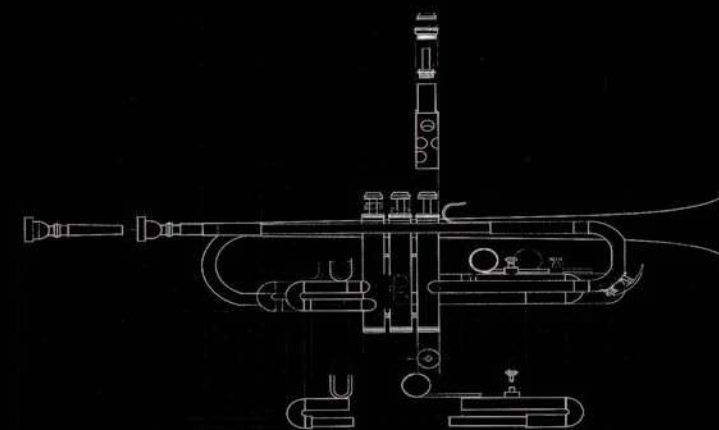
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**AIR CONDITIONING TIPS FOR THE FALL**

by Mitch Weigand

**Tip No. 28: Heads up on Hurricane Season**

Preparing for hurricane season means stocking up on supplies such as batteries, canned goods and gasoline. You'll also need to secure your home by boarding up windows with plywood and removing outdoor items such as patio furniture. Along with these usual precautions, don't forget to protect one of your home's most valuable assets, your air conditioning equipment. Here are some easy steps to follow to protect it from hurricanes and other extremes in weather:

- **Turn the A/C system off.** This sounds like a no-brainer but make sure it's completely off during the storm, both at the thermostat and the circuit breaker in your electric panel. In the event of flooding, power to the A/C can create a fire hazard or electrical shock.

-- **Secure your A/C system's condenser** (that's the A/C system's

outside unit). Powerful hurricane gusts can move loose equipment and cause significant damage. Make sure the condenser is completely secured to its base or your home by using hurricane straps, bolts or strong rope. All of these can be purchased at your local home improvement store.

-- **Remove loose items near the condenser.** Just as important as removing patio furniture, eliminate any other items that can potentially become airborne and cause damage. This includes flower pots, toys and bicycles.

-- Once the hurricane is over and electrical power has been properly restored, be sure to **clear all trash, leaves and limbs** which have gathered around the condenser. In addition, use a garden hose to remove accumulated debris from its fins.

**How to handle a flooded A/C system**

If flooding occurs in any part of the A/C system inside or outside of your home, call your A/C service technician

to perform a thorough inspection. NEVER restore power or turn on the thermostat until you are absolutely sure it's safe to do so.

Finally, hurricane or no hurricane, be sure to schedule regular maintenance for your A/C system to make sure it's running at peak efficiency!

**Hurricane Trivia: When does the Atlantic hurricane season begin and end?** The hurricane season for the Atlantic Ocean (source of our hurricanes) officially runs from June 1st – November 30th. Since the Pacific Ocean is larger and warmer, its season is longer and more intense. However, some areas in the world are so active, there is no official season. Storms here can sprout up virtually year-round!

*Mitch is the owner of Air Wise™ and a member of the Garden Oaks Civic Club. You can email Mitch with any A/C questions at [mitch@airwisehouston.com](mailto:mitch@airwisehouston.com). or write to 1590 Sue Barnett Drive, Houston, TX 77018. All of his previous columns from the Garden Oaks Gazette can be found at [www.airwisehouston.com](http://www.airwisehouston.com).*

**Garden Oaks Civic Club**

**2012 Constable Patrol Contributor Application & Contact Information**

(Please remit by March 31, 2012 for our 2012 contract • All information is held strictly confidential)

[ ] New Member or [ ] Renewal

Property Address : _____	
Phone at this address: _____	
<b>Member 1 Information</b>	<b>Member 2 Information</b>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____
Work Phone: _____	Work Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____	Cell Phone: _____
<b>Emergency Contact Information</b>	<b>Emergency Contact Information</b>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Home Phone: _____	Home Phone: _____
Work Phone: _____	Work Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____	Cell Phone: _____

**Payment Options**

- [ ] Enclosed find my payment for 2012 of \$200. (Make checks payable to Garden Oaks Civic Club)
- [ ] I/We cannot contribute \$200 now; however, enclosed please find my/our check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- [ ] I/We will participate via bank draft. (Complete Draft Authorization Form below only if NEW)

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

- [ ] Yes! Please accept my additional gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the year (enclosed) OR \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month (bank draft option only).

**Draft Authorization Form (Attach voided check if completing this form)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize **Chase Bank** to begin Direct Debiting of my Bank Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Bank and Bank Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_ for my participation.

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

- Please take \$20 out of my account monthly for the Garden Oaks Constable Patrol Program.
- This authorization includes a debit for an additional \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly gift to the program.
- This authorization includes permission for a \$20 cancellation fee.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to Garden Oaks Constable Program PO Box 10273 Houston TX 77206**



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# SEPTEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
2	3 Labor Day	4 Civic Club Meeting- Meet the Candidates 7pm, GOES	5 	6	7	8 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
9	10 A-Go Go Meeting 859 Azalea	11	12	13 Garden Club 7pm Friendship Park  MNO 7:30pm Shady Tavern	14	15 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
16	17	18 	19 GOMO monthly meeting, 7pm	20	21	22 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
23	24	25	26	27	28 Friday Fun Day 9:30 am, Stomping Grounds-Sugarland	29 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield

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