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 4th 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) 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 20th, from 4-6 pm. (Rain date Saturday November 3rd)

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 43rd, 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, 4-6 pm

VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Gazette Delivery Coordinator
see page 6 for more information

IN THIS ISSUE
Heard Under the Oak Tree ... 2
Photos of the Month … 3
GO Civic Club Meeting … 4
Delivery Coordinator Needed …6
Citizens’ Patrol … 7
GOMO Annual Meeting …9
A-Go Go … 10
Yard of the Month … 11
Habits of Effective Children … 12
HISD Bond Proposal …13
GO Kids Update …14
Potluck Photos … 15
Wine Walk Registration … 16-17
 Critter Corner … 18
Arts Alive … 21
AC Tips … 22
Constable Patrol Contributor Form … 23
Events Calendar … 24
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 42nd — 918 West 41st
842 West 42nd — 902 West 43rd
987 West 41st — 228 West 33rd
1011 Lamonte

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 Knoxiah — 29th

Garden Oaks Gazette
The Garden Oaks Gazette is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published on a monthly basis. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted.

No exceptions.

Publication of any article not related to the Civic Club does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

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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

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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 Taekwondo forms at the AAU Junior Olympics. This year’s Junior Olympics were held in Houston at the George R Brown Convention Center.
Section 1:

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 20th 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. Notification: 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.

Section 2:

Overall, crime is up this year compared to the same time last year. The Constable is fully staffed 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.

Section 3:

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.
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 Gazette 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 needed on that route.

I will 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 – Sherree 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 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.

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 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 GOCCP77018@AOL.com or by phone at 713-864-1992.

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GARDEN OAKS
GARDEN OAKS

GARDEN OAKS
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.

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 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 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 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.
**GARDEN OAKS**

**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 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!

---

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**Secretary**
Mary Lynn Porter

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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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**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 or 713-692-6778.

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facundohomebuilders@comcast.net

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**GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS**

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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@stmark.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 bring the Seven Habits to our school community including stakeholders.

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

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 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!

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!
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 Playland in Sugarland! I know this at 9:30am at Stomping Grounds playdate on Friday September 28th.

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 (arkijsene@gmail.com) or Ashley Henke (ashleymariehenke@gmail.com) for all the details.

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 or 832-647-9405.

GO KIDS UPDATE
by Kristin Jordan

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

Firefly Run
Let’s get a group together for the Firefly 5k on November 3rd benefiting 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 18th. Register online at 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. All proceeds go to the Garden Oaks Constable Program.

Bouncy House – We are still collecting bouncy house money. It is a $50 donation. Payment by mail (check or cash): Kristin Jordan 4223 Apollo Street Houston, TX 77018

Payment By Paypal (credit/debit):
gardenoakskids.com
Website / Communication – 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 angelicapuesto@hotmail.com and she’ll set you right up.

GO KIDS is bit far from GO but it is the best Playland in Sugarland! I know this at 9:30am at Stomping Grounds playdate on Friday September 28th.

GO KIDS OUTREACH

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 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.

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.

Also join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/
ADVENTUROUS CAT LOVER seeks adventurous cat owner. Please be employed and willing to relocate. Especially fond of black and white tuxedo cats. All responses will be answered. Looking for that Purrr-fect match.

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:

$125 Bronze Sponsors
Ace Tree Specialist
Blake Woods Design
Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Realty
Metropolitan
Houston Civic Symphony
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. Solution Builders/Dara and Laura Childs, and Lesli Dabney

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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 snagle-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 or call 713-688-6363.

G R I T T E R  C O R N E R

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September 8 - Winter Hummingbirds by Susan Heath

September 15 - Hummingbird Gardening by Barbara Burkhardt

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

G A R D E N  O A K S

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 teeny-weeny legs. (Adapted from “Hum 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

October 6 - Meet a Hummingbird Expert

G A R D E N  O A K S

Gardening by Barbara Burkhardt

Hallie Ray Moore, DVM
Susan Cardenas, DVM

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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 or call 713-688-6363.
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

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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 stockpiling 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 on the circuit breaker in your electric panel. In the event of flooding, power to the A/C can create a fire hazard or damage the condenser.

-- Remove loose items near the A/C outdoor 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 accumulated 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 or write to 1590 Sue Barnett Drive, Houston, TX 77018. All of Mitch's previous columns from the Garden Oaks Gazette can be found at 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)

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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
## SEPTEMBER 2012

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