

GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

VOLUME 36

ISSUE 10

THE WINE WALK IS HERE! By Dian Austin

As we go to press, we have very few tickets left for our 4th annual Constable Program Fundraiser, The Garden Oaks Wine Walk. This event has proven to be very popular and we expect to sell all 200 tickets as we have in the previous years. *Continued on page 16.*

FALL FESTIVAL SEASON OFFERS FUN FOR ALL

As the summer heat becomes a memory and the autumnal equinox marks the beginning of fall, it's time to enjoy all of the activities in and around Houston. You'll likely find a festival for every fancy from the list below. More festival information can be found at <http://www.visithoustontexas.com/travel-tools/events>.

Ghost Walks, (Sept. 28-Nov. 4, 2012) every Thursday - Sunday
Ghostly guides lead you on a two-hour walking and METRORail tour past haunted sites in Houston's Downtown Historic District. (713) 222-9255.

Texas Renaissance Festival, (Weekends Oct. 6-Nov. 25, 2012)
Starting in October and continuing for eight themed weekends in Plantersville, the Texas Renaissance Festival recreates an English village of the 16th century. Magicians, jugglers, minstrels, troubadours and comedians perform on six stages. (281) 356-2178. *Continued on page 9.*

OCT 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

No October Civic Club Meeting



National Night Out

October 2

GOMO Annual Meeting

October 17, 7 pm

Wine Walk

October 20, 4 - 6pm

November Civic Club Meeting

November 6th, 7pm

Garden Oaks Elementary School

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.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1078 West 42 nd | 737 West 42 nd |
| 902 West 42 nd | 874 West 42 nd |
| 216 West 33 rd | 316 West 33 rd |
| 907 West 42 nd | 714 West 43 rd |

October Birthdays

Dian Austin, 1st, **Sue Schmidt**, 3rd,
Tania Chaix, 6th, **Tina Sabuco**, 9th,
Michael Padon, 12th, **Rita Donaldson**, 15th,
Mark Saranie, **Linda Reichle**, and **Pene Carter**,
 all 25th, **Layne Heath**, 27th, **Jack Runge**, 28th,
 and **Chuck Fleming**, 31st.

Happy Anniversary

Debbie & Tony Padon, 6th, **Elizabeth & Mark Klein**, 7th,
Gig & Betsy Runge, 9th, **Jim and Sally McDaniel**, 12th,
Holly and Matt Veech 14th, - **John**

and **Tina Beddow**, 21st.
Tina Sabuco and the 18th Anniversary of her company Arts Alive!

Congratulations

Ryan and Lindsey Macleod have welcomed their first baby. **Layne** was born on July 27 weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. **Margarita Barcenas** is serving on the Univeristy of Houston Bauer Alumni Association 2012-2013 Board of Directors.

Out and About

The Lister Bowman family took Disneyworld by storm.
Sandra O'Guynn visited Manitou Cave Dwellings Colorado.
Imelda and Elizabeth Johnson adopted hummingbirds at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory in Lake Jackson
Clare Shaughnessy and Kylie Salch (2nd graders) displayed their Cheer Camp techniques as they cheered from the field at a recent St. Pius High

School Football game.
Ken Johnson has been busy in Oregon.
Trent and Chavonne Slovak vacationed in Italy.

Rebuilding Together, a Houston and Home Depot partnership for Veteran Home Repair Assistance Program , recently repaired a home in Garden Oaks Thanks to this veteran for their service.

To highlight an event, celebration, or other tidbit, contact Terry Jeanes at 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 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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CITIZENS' PATROL PROGRAM

By Carl Waters

I hope you all have your block parties planned for Tuesday, October 2 for National Night Out. This is good time to meet the new neighbors and reconnect with the old. You can also use this opportunity to create a contact list for your block collecting names, phone numbers and email addresses so you can let your neighbors know if you see someone or something suspicious around their homes.

August Crime Statistics (6)

Burglary (4)

900 block of W. 41st St. on Thursday, August 16 at 11:45 a.m. (residence).
 4200 block of Apollo Dr. on Friday, August 17 at 1:00 p.m. (residence).
 4300 block of Apollo Dr. on Monday, August 20 at 7:35 p.m. (garage).
 900 block of Althea Dr. on Wednesday, August 29 at 7:20 a.m. (residence).

Theft (1)

1400 block of Sue Barnett Dr. on Sunday, August 19 at 2:30 a.m. (residence).

Auto Theft (1)

400 block of W. 41st St. on Saturday, August 11 at 3:00 a.m. (residence).

Inquiries about joining the Citizens Patrol Program or about other community safety issues can be directed to me via neighborhood website GardenOaks.org or to the COP email account at GOCOP77018@AOL.com or by phone at 713-864-1992.



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Terms expire October of year in parentheses.



GO CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

by Heather Leverett, Secretary and Mark Klein, President

Location: Garden Oaks Elementary September 4, 2012

Welcome: President Mark Klein called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

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

A motion was made and carried to accept the August minutes as published in the *Gazette*.

President's Announcements:

City Government/311: The city is launching a new website to better handle requests. It will include sorting and the ability to take pictures and submit them with the complaint. For best response, do not call on Mondays or at off hours or lunch time. There are 49 agents who receive 11 weeks of training in order to handle and manage over 2.1 million issues. Property nuisance is the number one complaint. **Deed Restriction Enforcement:** There will be a special meeting in November to discuss deed restriction with representatives

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. Property owners in Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 are all members of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization.

from the the city attorney's office responsible for enforcing violations.

Wine Walk: The fourth annual wine walk is scheduled for October 20th. The theme is Mediterranean Magic. Only 200 tickets are available and there are only 49 left. Sponsorship spots are still available and include tickets with the sponsorship. The Wine Walk proceeds benefit the Constable Program.

Gazette Delivery Coordinator: The neighborhood still needs someone to take over the coordination of the Gazette delivery. Responsibilities include delivering the Gazettes to the coordinator of each section one time per month.

Candidate Forum: President Klein introduced Lieutenant Colonel Sean Seibert. He is challenging Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee in District 18. Sean Seibert spoke about his candidacy. Constable Candidates, Alan Rosen and Joe Danna, were present and both spoke about their background with the constable program and candidacy.

Standing Committee Reports:

GO Citizens Patrol: Carl Waters reported six crimes in September: four burglaries, one theft and one auto-theft. There were only two crimes this month last year. Carl reminded everyone that October is National Night Out and that there will not be Civic Club meeting this month.

Constable Program: Terry Jeanes reported that Captain Kovar is back over the patrol. Shady Acres is considering a contract as ours has been so successful. The Constables drove 4,000 miles last month and dealt with 25 warrants and 12 arrests. Please lock your garages and doors and call the Constable when anything is suspicious. Terry also reminded everyone to be vigilant for anyone trying to fundraise for a Culinary Institute. It is a fraud. Terry introduced

Chief Heap, the Chief of Patrol. Chief Heap reported that there will be a new Constable Contract effective January 1st. New Constable Contracts will go in at 100%, but Garden Oaks will remain at 80% when renewing. Chief Heap also discussed a planned implementation of Neighborhood Emergency Response Unit where deputies would know who to reach out to with special circumstances in the event of a hurricane or disaster.

Membership: No update. A gift card was awarded in the membership drawing.

Beautification: No update.

Gazette: No update.

GardenOaks.org Website: No update.

Treasurer's Update: Treasurer Ramirez reported that the financials are status quo for this time of year. A \$9K deposit is not yet reflected in the financials.

GOMO Update: No update. It was noted that the annual meeting is October 17th at Garden Oaks Elementary.

Garden Oaks Elementary: Principal Lindsey Pollock made a presentation on the bond proposal which will include a \$26 million investment in Garden Oaks elementary.

President Klein adjourned the meeting at 8:18 pm.


PARKS BY YOU – TRANSFORMING HOUSTON'S FUTURE TODAY

By Shellye Arnold

Houston has many wonderful attributes: friendly people, great and plentiful restaurants, and wonderfully unique neighborhoods, with Garden Oaks being the best! One often-overlooked and undervalued asset is Houston's bayou system. Our bayous not only serve Houston for drainage purposes, but equally importantly are a source of nature and beauty that often go unnoticed. Have you ever biked TC Jester Park and marveled at the bounty of turtles, fish, egrets and herons? Or sat reading in the breezy shade of a grand old Oak in Terry Hershey Park? Or spent an adventurous afternoon kayaking Buffalo Bayou Park into downtown Houston? These are some of my many experiences growing up along and

Continued on page 12.

**Plaza Moms Society
presents:**



**Thursday, October 11
6:00-9:00 p.m.
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GAZETTE DELIVERY COORDINATOR NEEDED

by Dian Austin

We are fortunate to have a large cadre of volunteers who continually step up to help deliver the *Gazette* newsletters to your door each and every month. Welcome to several new block captains who have joined our team:

- Jennifer Funderburk, who has been delivering the 4100-4200 block of Apollo now for several months.
- Deborah Jeans, who has been delivering the 900 block of W. 42nd.
- Betsy Stein, who will be delivering the 900 block of Althea, starting this month.
- Peri Mashburn and Suzanne Debien who will start delivering the 200/300 blocks of W. 34th this month.
- Thanks to the Klein family for covering this route for many months before and after their move from section 1.

Most of these volunteers do not even live in the blocks to which they deliver. A big thanks to all the new team members.

I am still looking for a Gazette Delivery Coordinator to shepherd the delivery process and to routinely deliver all the bundled *Gazettes* to the five separate Section Coordinators. Please email me at FallingwaterT@yahoo.com if you can take over this responsibility.

If you don't get your *Gazette* each month or don't get it timely, please let me know. But, if you don't volunteer, don't complain too loudly.

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Mark Klein, President, Garden Oaks Civic Club

Special November Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting: City Attorney's Office to Discuss Deed Restriction Enforcement

Please join us for our Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting **7 P.M. November 6**, when representatives from the City of Houston's Attorney Office will be on hand to discuss **deed restrictions** – what the City looks for and what influences enforcement decisions.

Please note, the City Attorney representatives will not and cannot discuss specific cases. This meeting is focused on how the City enforces deed restriction violations. GOCC meeting attendees are asked not to inquire about specific cases. This meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn what the City looks for when enforcing deed restrictions in Section 4, which is not part of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization, which enforces deed restrictions in Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5.

Brother's Pizza at 3820 N. Shepherd (at Garden Oaks Boulevard) will graciously provide New York-style pizza pies to get the meeting started (while supplies last).

As is tradition, there will be no October meeting of the Garden Oaks Civic Club; , we celebrate National Night Out events that evening held throughout our neighborhood.

Please take the time to attend one of your block events, where you can meet you neighbors, as well as our law enforcement partners that make the **National Night Out** rounds throughout the city. Law enforcement

experts say one of the single most important deterrents to crime is to know your neighbors, be they next door or down the street.

CIVIC CLUB GOING GREEN IN 4TH QUARTER

Electronic mail out

The civic club will be rolling out a new initiative this month: to use the newly created GODAT platform (Garden Oaks Data Access Tool) to email the 2013 civic club and constable dues statements to those members/ supporters for whom we have email addresses.

Recipients of the emailed 2013 forms will be able to pay via Paypal (using either a Paypal account or a credit card), or the forms can be printed off and mailed to the PO box (listed on the form).

In the past, the mail out has been a very labor intensive process, using many GO volunteers to stamp, fold, and stuff envelopes. And it's expensive to buy all the materials, have them printed, and then physically mail them via the USPS.

Please note that the 2013 forms for supporting both the civic club and the constable program are included in this month's Gazette. Please sign up early.

GODAT will also be used to send out important community news items, and security alerts when incidents occur, but we need your email address to make that happen for everyone. If you want to be added to the database to receive these alerts and other timely information, please send your name, physical address, and email address to secretary@gardenoaks.org.

CONSTABLE PROGRAM

By Terry Jeanes & Susan Love Saranie

Patrolling Deputy Request:

Please be mindful to come to a full stop at area stop signs. Deputies have been stopped on numerous occasions by walking and biking neighbors pointing to drivers that run stop signs. In a 25 minute period alone sitting at a 4 way Stop (Alba and W 41st), 8 violators were stopped, 5 of which were local Garden Oaks residents. The safety of our neighbors are the constables' utmost concern as well as deterring break-ins . Help curb this traffic issue and be mindful to make full stops.

SUPPORT the Garden Oaks Constable Program. The **2013 Supporter form is in the Gazette or can be downloaded at <http://gardenoaks.org/constableform>.**

Note that in an effort to be more environmentally friendly, past

supporters will be emailed the 2013 form in October versus receiving a hard copy in the mail. Please expedite upon [receipt](#).

For all neighbors to receive more timely notices on crime alerts, please provide your name, email address and street address to secretary@gardenoaks.org. Also contact your surrounding neighbors and encourage them to do so.

REMINDER– your alarm company may contact constable dispatch for prompt response to alarms. Contact your alarm monitoring company.

REMINDER–you can find the **vacation watch form** at <http://www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/VacationWatch.pdf>

AUGUST 2012 STATISTICS

Miles Patrolled.....3519
Court Citations.....100

Alarm Responses.....6
Written Warnings.....1
Vacations Watches.....79
Suspicious Vehicles.....59
Park checks.....57
Criminal Offenses.....5
Arrests.....37

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HEAVY TRASH PICK-UP SCHEDULE CHANGE

Effective November 1, 2012
- 3rd Thursday of the month

Continuing its efforts to maximize cost savings, provide efficient service delivery and engage in proactive customer service, the Solid Waste Management Department has taken your feedback and is improving your heavy trash (tree waste/junk waste) collection service.

Effective Thursday, November 1, 2012, the monthly heavy trash (tree waste/junk waste) pickup date for your neighborhood will change. **Tree waste and junk waste collection will still occur in alternating months**, odd-numbered months for tree waste (January, March, May, July, September and November) and even-numbered months for junk waste (February, April, June, August, October and December), but on the new heavy trash (tree waste/junk waste) pickup day designated

for your neighborhood. **Please note that collection day schedules for other Solid Waste services such as garbage, yard trimmings and recycling collection WILL NOT change.**

All sections of Garden Oaks will have heavy trash pick-up on the 3rd Thursday of the month, starting November 1st.

The service date change aims to to achieve the following:

- Less confusion with neighborhood collection schedules
- A single service day for major community areas
- Easier to read/interpret service maps for customers and 311 operators
- Easier management of routes
- Budget savings in fuel and maintenance
- Greater availability for department support for community-based beautification projects.

You will receive reminders by mail from the Solid Waste Management Department about your new heavy trash (tree waste/junk waste) pickup day. **Remember, this change only affects your heavy trash (tree waste/junk waste) service day.**

Thank you for your support as we continue to maximize your savings.

To see the improved service maps with your new neighborhood schedule collection date, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/2012_heavytrashreroute.html. For questions contact Sandra Jackson at Sandra.jackson2@houstontx.gov.

To learn more about solid waste services and recycling in the City of Houston, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org, www.greenhoustontx.gov, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/houstonsolidwaste and on Twitter @ [houstontrash](https://twitter.com/houstontrash).



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Continued from page 1.

Bayou City Art Festival Downtown, (Oct. 13-14, 2012)

The fine juried art show in downtown's Hermann Square and Tranquility Park, spans several blocks filled with paintings, sculptures, jewelry and music, plus great food, wine cafes, beer taverns and a kids zone. (713) 521-0133.

Festa Italiana, (Oct. 11-14, 2012)

Houston's Annual Italian Festival on the campus of St. Thomas University features authentic Italian food, wine, music, dancing, arts and crafts and entertainment for all ages. (713) 524-422.

Wings Over Houston Airshow, (Oct. 27-28, 2012)

This airshow takes off and lands at Houston's Ellington Field. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Navy's Blue Angels have wowed onlookers in past years with aerial acrobatics, while aircraft from current Air Force and Navy inventories is on display. (713) 266-4492.

Texian Market Days, (Oct. 27, 2012)

At the George Ranch Historical Park, more than 200 costumed interpreters bring to life all that is Texas, complete with children's activities, an antique tractor show and a parade. Guests can indulge in a one-of-a-kind celebration



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Day of the Dead Festival, (Oct. 27-28, 2012)

Dia de los Muertos is a traditional holiday that honors and celebrates the lives of family and friends who have died. The event includes traditional celebrations and Dia de los Muertos arts and crafts. (713) 802-9370.



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ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP ANNOUNCES SPEAKER FOR OCTOBER

by Tina Sabuco

Doug Reuschel, the owner of Sundance Care Specialists, a Senior Care Management Company, will be speaking at the October 1st meeting of the Alzheimer's Group of Garden Oaks (aka "A GO-GOs"). Even though this is a support group for family and friends with loved ones affected by Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia, **anyone with aging family members** will benefit from listening to Doug share his knowledge in the field of Geriatric Care and Management.

Doug has worked with individuals and families since 1986. He has worked in hospital environments, a psychiatric hospital, and held a variety of positions in healthcare management. Doug is a Care Manager ~ Certified (CMC) through the National Academy of Certified Care Managers.

What is a Senior Care Manager? – A care manager is a health and human services specialist who is a guide, advocate and resource for families caring for a relative. Care managers have extensive knowledge about the costs, quality and availability of resources in their communities. Amongst many of the services that Doug can provide are: Assess Needs, Placement Options, Arrange In-home Care and Services, Counseling and Support, Hospital and Nursing Home Monitoring, Crisis Intervention and much, much more.


Please join us on **Monday, October 1st from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** at the home of Tina Sabuco and Shellye Arnold, 859 Azalea Street. If you are interested in joining us and would like to rsvp to this talk or an upcoming meeting or if you have any questions, contact Tina at goddess@abundanceretreat.com or 713-692-6778.

Please make a note of our future meetings for 2012:
November 5th
December 3rd.



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YARD OF THE MONTH: 827 Lamonte



By Janet Cones

The October Yard of the Month is 827 Lamonte and the gardener is Joanie Harmon, although I suspect her husband may help once in a while. It is so gorgeous; I walked around and said "Oh, what is this plant/flower?" at least 100 times. There is a fabulous live oak to start out the tour, rare bromeliads, gingers and orchids, along with a wonderful angel's trumpet and a variety of spices like oregano, basil and rosemary integrated with flowers. I can't even begin to list all the fascinating plants there are! It is truly an awe-inspiring work of art!



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HOUSTON ISD BOND!

By Lindsey Pollock

This November 6th, voters will have the opportunity to ratify a bond package that could change student environments across the city of Houston. Some of those campuses are right here in our Garden Oaks' neighborhood – Garden Oaks Elementary and Waltrip High School. For our campus, Garden Oaks Elementary, the bond proposal designates \$26,678,000 for a new addition and significant renovations to our existing facilities and expands our capacity to 750 – 900 students! This would facilitate the expansion of the Montessori program to include 7th and 8th grade. Potential benefits for the students, families and neighbors of Garden Oaks include:

- Improved parking and traffic flow
- Improved electrical systems and HVAC

- Technology upgrades and access
- Classrooms and common areas such as restrooms to accommodate the increasing demand for the Montessori program

Any such plans once approved by the voters would be influenced by the feedback of ad hoc committees to provide input on the design of the building and grounds.

Remember that voter registration is open now and ends October 9, 2012. Stop by the school if you need to register. Early voting begins October 22 and ends November 2 and the general election is Tuesday, November 6th. For more information about the 2012 bond proposal, visit houstonisd.org/2012bond. If you have questions about the bond, email bondinfo@houstonisd.org.

Continued from page 5. Parks

living near Houston's bayous for much of my life.

There is an opportunity on the table today for Houston to fully embrace our bayous as a valuable asset for the City; expand and improve our park space; and transform Houston for generations to come. **Parks By You** is an initiative that seeks to connect 7 bayous across Houston with green spaces and trails, as well as improve existing local parks. This initiative will add 2000 acres of green space along the bayous all over Houston and bring the total walking/running/biking/playing trails along the bayous to over 150 miles. This system will connect one end of Houston to the other, will connect neighborhoods, and will connect people – all by connecting our bayous.

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are built to hold water, particularly in rainy situations. The green spaces will act as a buffer increasing the capacity of the bayous. In rainy situations the green spaces will flood but it will decrease the amount of flooding seen in streets and surrounding neighborhoods. Water quality can be improved through the natural filtration system the green spaces provide through vegetation. This means less has to be spent on cleaning the water. Trees provide natural air filtration that will boost our air quality as well.

Transportation Benefits: The trails associated with the Parks By You plan will reduce the necessity for bikers and pedestrians to be in the often-dangerous streets. People can use these trails in conjunction with existing infrastructure for effective transportation throughout the city. With every vehicular commuter that can be taken off the road, traffic congestion can be decreased as well

as the amount of pollution associated with cars.

Public Health and Safety Benefits: With the completion of this initiative, the majority of Houstonians will live within 1.5 miles of a park. More kids and adults will have the opportunity to play, exercise and interact in or near their neighborhoods. Active communities are healthier and safer communities.

Economic Benefits: With an annual return on investment of over \$70 million per year Parks By You will more than pay for itself within a few short years. The construction process will additionally bring an influx of jobs to the Houston economy. Long term benefits include making Houston more competitive on the national stage where we compete for jobs and talent across the country. More corporations and individuals will consider making Houston home with the increased quality of life that Parks By You initiative will bring.

Costs

The total cost of this project to connect the 7 Houston bayous is \$205 million. \$105 million will come from state, federal and private sector funds. \$100 million will come from a proposed \$166 million bond initiative known as **Proposition B** on the November 6 ballot. The other \$66M of the bond proposal has been allocated to improving local community parks. In total, that's 271 million to transform Houston's future – today. Notably, this will require NO tax rate increase.

What Can You Do to Help?

1. Vote for Proposition B on the November 6 ballot
2. Spread the word to your family, friends and co-workers
3. Get involved – Parks by You needs volunteer!

For more information, please visit www.ParksbyYou.org, email me at shellye@abundanceretreat.com or call me at 713/299-0237.



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GO KIDS UPDATE

by Kristin Jordan

Upcoming Events

Mom's Night Out –Kerry Taylor's Home – Date & Time will be emailed out.

Friday Fun Day – Come join us for some fun on October 26th at 10 am at Old MacDonald's Farm! Between the pumpkin patch, petting zoo, train rides, playground and pony rides there will be plenty for everyone to do! Bring your lunch so we can have a picnic in the gazebo. Old MacDonald's Farm is located at 3203 Fm 1960 Rd E Humble, TX 77338.

Admission is \$6 a person. Please pay by October 24th. Money can be left in an envelope at 4223 Apollo St.

Playgroups –

GO Babies – Wednesday Oct 10th – 2-4 pm Kristin Jordan's Home – 4223 Apollo Street

Go Buddies – Thursday, October 25th - 10 am Houston Police Department Mounted Patrol barn - Demonstration & Visiting the Horses.

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 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 or 832-647-9405.

Let's get a group together for the Firefly 5k on November 3rd 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 18th. Register online at <http://www.fireflyrun.com/houston.htm> and email me so we can coordinate a group presence!



Firefly Run

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.

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Participants are encouraged to sign up in teams and coordinate outfits for the postrace 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 \$30 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 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) or Ashley Henke (ashleymariehenke@gmail.com) for all the details.

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Continued from page 1.

If you have not yet bought a ticket, the ticket order form can be downloaded at www.gardenoaks.org. If you've already purchased a ticket, you should have received a confirmation email. (If not, please send a note to FallingwaterT@yahoo.com).

With the help of our generous cash sponsors and table hosts who supply the wine and foods, we expect to raise in excess of \$13,000 for the constable program.

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

Tickets: Ticket prices are \$50 each

What: 13 of our generous neighbors and business supporters

each supplying at least a case of wine for you to taste.

Theme: Mediterranean Magic: wines from countries that border the Mediterranean.

Where: 744 West 43rd, the lush backyard of Ed and Brenda de Alba

Why: To raise money for our constable program.

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

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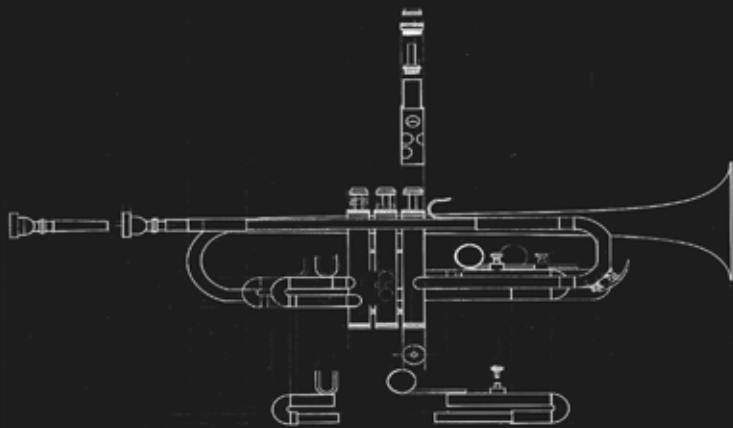
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- Karie and Alyn Goad and Kimberley
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CRITTER CORNER

by Casey and Dorothy Dan Farris

Birds do it, bees do it — and so do salmon, dogs, rats, and cats. I’m talking about the “homing instinct.” From time to time a story emerges about a pet finding their way home against all odds. Don’t you wonder how they do it? No animal carries a built-in compass or electronic device. This month Dorothy Dan and I discuss this mysterious phenomenon. Our Pet of the Month has moved away from Garden Oaks but comes back every chance he gets.

Pet of the Month: “Mr. October” is Charlie Russell-Heiland (yellow Lab/ Golden Retriever mix). He is five years old and used to live in Section II with his parents Gary Russell and David Heiland. They have now moved to San Leon on the water. Even though Charlie is that anytime, anyway, water dog, he still wants to come back and visit his old house, friends, and neighbors in Garden Oaks. So, the

Russell-Heiland family is often back in the neighborhood doing just that. Charlie was a rescue when Gary and David fostered him at six months old and it wasn’t long before he became a permanent family member. Charlie was a fierce chewer as a puppy which earned him the nickname, “Chew Chew Chalupa.” In fact, Gary’s license plate reads Chew ². On especially good days he is called King Charles. Charlie squints when he smiles and loves to swim in Galveston Bay. He has a baby sister dog, Rosie, who is a one year old Shih Tzu, and his BFF dog, Piero, has a swimming pool. Can it get any better than this?! Cheers to our very own good-time Charlie!

Critters 101: The Homing Instinct
We share with our dogs, cats and other domestic animals an attachment to a place we all regard as home. If one of these animals strays, or is given to a new owner, or is carried away and abandoned, it acts lost and homesick as it struggles to grope its way back. This is easy to see in pets and among livestock on farms. Surprisingly, many such displaced animals do find their way home, often through miles of strange country.

This instinct is called “homing.” It is theorized that birds, dogs, and cats draw their homing abilities from a combination of internal clocks, sun angles, and the earth’s magnetic field. While it is a generally accepted belief that the homing instinct is strongest in the pigeon, it is also fairly well developed in cats and dogs. Dogs are aided by their keen sense of smell and recognition of familiar landmarks.

Cat lore includes a score of tales about cats who have found their way home. But perhaps the round-trip record is held by Ninja, the tomcat who moved with his owners from Utah to Washington State in 1996. He disappeared shortly after arriving in his new home, only to turn up at the

old Utah address — 850 miles away — a year later.

With such amazing abilities, how do cats get lost? Many cats don’t get lost so much as they get trapped somewhere else. Cats have explored trucks, boxes, and containers, and the lucky ones get found and returned.

Research shows the largest percentage of lost or missing cats involve an outdoor-access cat turning up missing, very soon after a house move. If they have not come to understand where their new home is, they will instinctively try to get back to where home was, no matter how far away. This is not a product of thought, but of instinct, and cats find it very difficult to override their own instincts, which normally serve them well. Since the cat’s “homing center” can be disrupted in a move, we need to keep them indoors for at least three weeks, to allow it to reset for their new place.

For salmon, it appears that the smell of their home waters is key. For birds and bees, navigating by the sun, stars, or moon appears to help.

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

NEW ON TAP IN GARDEN OAKS

By Kelly Beam

If your drive home takes you past Shepherd Park and Pink's Pizza on North Shepherd, you've no doubt noticed the transformation taking place to the building that formerly housed Gilbert's Drive Shafts. This metamorphized garage will reopen as Garden Oak's newest restaurant and bar—Cottonwood. Cottonwood owners, Charles Bishop and Rob and Sara Cromie, aren't new to the Houston restaurant and bar scene. In fact, all three own and manage the popular Liberty Station on Washington, and the Cromies also own and manage The Raven Grill and Picnic, both thriving restaurants located on Bissonnet.

Cottonwood will boast 30 beers on tap (many local), a wine menu, and a full bar. So whether you want a craft beer, a top-notch sangria, or the simplicity of a scotch on the rocks, Cottonwood fits the bill. Houston chef Daniel Ajtai will be at the helm of Cottonwood's dining

experience and plans on offering a menu of 15 to 20 items. Although you'll definitely be able to order the staples—like a classic all-American burger—the menu will specialize in shared plates that will cover a broad range of palates, such as stuffed Texas quail, jerk chicken wings, IPA mussels, and pork-belly corndogs with house-made apple ketchup. Cottonwood also ultimately plans to offer a brunch menu on Sunday mornings.

Inside this revitalized and reinvented garage, you'll find nothing but a down-to-earth experience: exposed brick, aged wood, and tons of natural light. And on most days, the back wall will be pulled open to reveal a huge covered patio where you'll find a stage for live music, deck games, televisions, and another fully-stocked bar. In addition to offering live music on the weekends (no cover), Cottonwood will offer different events, such as movie nights, beer dinners, and washer tournaments. Bishop explained that Cottonwood's

laid-back and friendly vibe will welcome everyone. So whether you're in a suit and tie on your way home from work or just looking for a cool place to hang out and have great food, you'll be comfortable.

Bishop said that he and the other owners are eager to move into Garden Oaks and are dedicated to cultivating a strong relationship with the community. In fact, they are already having discussions with the folks at Urban Harvest in an effort to develop a weekend farmer's market in the huge Cottonwood parking lot. In closing, Bishop said that opening Cottonwood is an exciting proposition, but that he and the Cromies are "most excited about growing with this neighborhood."

Cottonwood is located at 3422 N. Shepherd Dr. and opens its doors in early October. You can check them out on Facebook under "Cottonwood Houston" and follow them on twitter @ cottonwood bar.

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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 are on the agenda. If you are interested in being a board member please contact any of the GOMO Directors listed in the Gazette.

As a special treat for the October 17 meeting, the GOMO directors will host a pizza taste test of three of our local pizzerias: Brother's Pizza, Pinks and That Pizza Place.

Director Positions Open

Here 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.

Continued on page 23.

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AIR CONDITIONING TIPS FOR THE FALL

by Mitch Weigand

Tip No. 29: Choosing a Home Generator: Portable vs. Stand-by Part One of Three

During every hurricane season, many people want to know my thoughts on purchasing a generator. Should it be a portable or stand-by (stationary) generator, what capacity should it have, how much will it cost, etc. Let's review both types of generators available along with their pros and cons.

Home generators are designed to handle power outages. They run on a variety of fuels such as gasoline, diesel, natural gas (NG) and propane. At the very least, the generator should have enough capacity to run your refrigerator, a couple of lamps and fans, plus any special medical equipment required by a family member.

A portable generator may be the answer

The most economical way to supply emergency electricity is a portable generator which will create enough wattage to fit your needs. The smallest generator for household use should supply at least 4,000 watts (4 kilowatts) of power.

Portable generators are powered by gasoline or a propane tank—the same type used for large outdoor grills. Propane can be a good choice because gas stations are often closed down immediately after a hurricane, and gasoline that sits around for a long time requires addition of a fuel stabilizer. Propane is much more stable and does not require any additives.

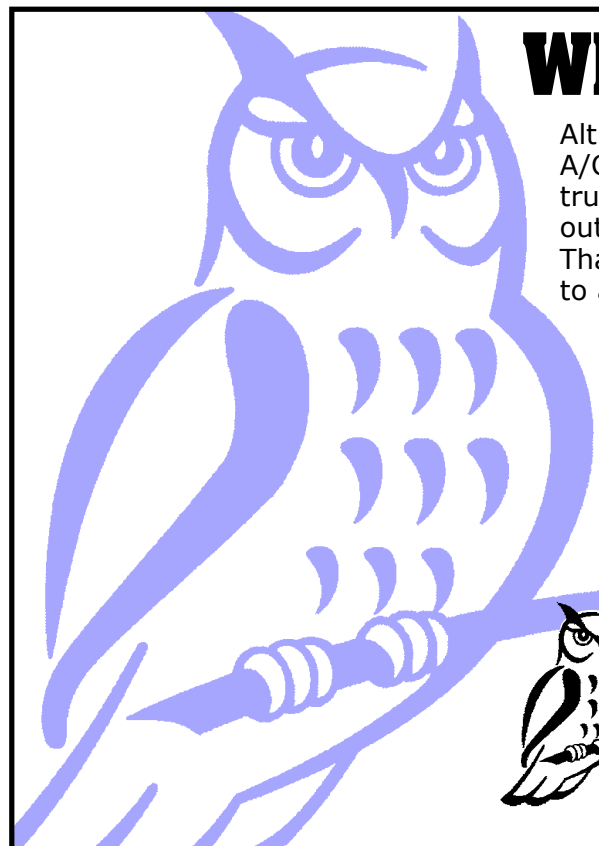
A portable generator is a lot like a lawn mower—they are started by pulling a cord. One very important consideration is how many people in your household have the strength and skill to start it. Portable generators also

produce both air and noise pollution.

Please note that NO portable generator should be operated inside or near windows, doors or any other area that could allow deadly fumes such as carbon monoxide to seep into your home. A suggested safe distance is at least 10 feet away. Heavy-duty extension cords will need to be run from the generator into the house to power chosen appliances.

What is the price range? For many homeowners, this is the starting point. Prices range from about \$350 for an economical, no-name model that produces 4,000-watts to \$2,000 for an 8,000-watt, top-end unit. They can be purchased online, or at any big-box hardware store.

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, 77018 or airwisehouston.com.



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Krista J. Spring Branch

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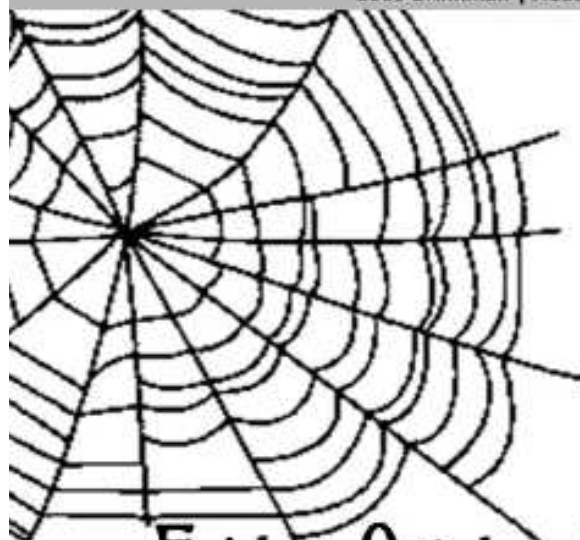


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Continued from page 20. GOMO

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. There are two funding proposals for disbursement of surplus funds:

Proposal 1. To provide funds for continuing coverage by one daytime and one nighttime constable patrol of Garden Oaks, 40 hours per week each, for the period January 1, 2013 until December 31, 2013. These two constable patrols are meant to supplement the current daytime patrol already provided by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and GO residents. Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization will pay for the service and the Garden Oaks Civic Club will be in charge of scheduling. Anticipated cost for renewal of the two constable patrols is \$146,000 for the year.

Proposal 2. To provide funds for purchase and installation of four speed-feedback signs to be placed on 43rd Street. This proposal authorizes

an estimated expenditure of \$14,000 with the total cost not to exceed \$18,000.

Each disbursement proposal requires a majority vote for approval at the October 17 meeting to be funded. Proxy ballots are being mailed to homeowners in Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5. The mailing also includes additional information about the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization and its activities.

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 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.

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/

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.).

RAIN BARREL/COMPOST BIN ONE DAY SALE

On **Saturday, October 13, 2012, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**, Houstonians can **buy rain barrels for \$55** (a \$120 value) and **compost machines for \$45** (a \$100 value) on a first come, first served basis at the Houston Permitting Center, 1002 Washington Avenue, Houston 77002. Parking is free.

For more information on the rain barrels and compost bins visit www.norsemanplastics.com/products/norseman_rainbarrel_npl_315.html and <http://earthmachine.com>.

For additional information contact Katelyn Orenchuk at Katelyn.orenchuk@houstontx.gov or 832.393.1066. To learn more about Green Houston, visit www.greenhoustontx.gov.



OCTOBER 2012

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| | 1 A-Go Go Meeting 859 Azalea 7 pm | 2 National Night Out  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 GO Babies, 2 pm 4223 Apollo | 11 | 12 | 13 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield |
| 14 | 15 | 16  | 17 GOMO Annual meeting and elec- tion, GOES, 7pm | 18 Garden Club 7pm MNO To Be Announced | 19 | 20 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield |
| 28 | 29 | 30  | 31 | 1 November | 3 Friday Fun Day 9:30 am, Stomping Grounds-Sugarland | 3 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield |

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