GAZETTE

VOLUME 37 ISSUE 01



Still struggling with your New Year's Resolutions? Start the year off right; support your neighborhood!

by Dian Austin

As we begin a new year, we look forward to welcoming new people to the neighborhood. Now is the perfect time for both old and new residents to support our civic club by sending in their membership and constable patrol dues.

Thanks to the 90 or so folks who have already paid their 2013 civic club dues. The list of paid civic club members as of 12/15/12 is listed in this month's newsletter. Please consider stepping up to support our neighborhood. And remember, anyone who pays prior to February 1 is eligible to be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card.

What exactly does the Civic Club do?

Per the by-laws, the Garden Oaks Civic Club (GOCC) was created as a nonprofit organization to foster neighborhood unity and assist in activities that benefit and promote the residential character of the neighborhood. But it's a lot more than that. It is a monthly gathering place where residents can voice concerns and come together, learn about happenings in the hood, and become involved. It is about nurturing a sense of community and putting a face with a name. It is about meeting others who love our neighborhood and want to explore options for our concerns. (It is not about deed restrictions; those are handled by the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO), a separate entity from the civic club.)

In 2012, we had an opportunity to meet with District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen, learn what the upcoming bond election meant for area schools, discuss security precautions with representatives from HPD's North Division, talk to Precinct One Constables about crime, hear firsthand about the 290 construction update, vote on the use of the 2012 home tour funds, get updates and resolve issues regarding the city's PW&E water main replacement project throughout the neighborhood, meet congressional and constable candidates, **Continued on pg 21.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

January Civic Club Meeting January 2, 2013 Garden Oaks Elementary 7 PM

February Civic Club Meeting February 5, 2013

GOES Pancake Breakfast February 9, 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

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CITIZENS' PATROL

By Carl Waters

Many thanks to the volunteers who gave their time last year to make the Citizens' Patrol program work. Without their time, this program would not exist. Our program could use more volunteers. If your New Year's resolution is to become more active in the Garden Oaks community, our program could use your help.

It takes just a few simple steps to become a member. First, you need to contact me by telephone at 713-864-1992, by email at GOCOP77018@ AOL.com or through the Garden Oaks web site GardenOaks.org. If you choose the last option, click on the get involved link and then click on our program. Once you have signed up you will need to complete a one hour training class and pass a criminal background check conducted by the Houston Police Department. The

program is open to all Garden Oaks residents 18 years of age or older.

November Crime Statistics (9)

Robbery (2)

- •2900 block N. Shepherd Dr. on Tuesday, November 13 at 12:45 p.m. (retail store).
- •3200 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Saturday, November 24 at 1:26 p.m. (bank).

Burglary (1)

•1000 block of W. 41st St. on Wednesday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m. (residence).

Theft (5)

- •500 block of W. 30th St. on Friday, November 2 at 6:00 p.m. (commercial lot).
- •700 block of W. 43rd St. on Tuesday, November 6 at 8:00 p.m. (front yard). •2900 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Tuesday, November 20 at 4:10 p.m.

(sidewalk).

- •3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Tuesday, November 20 at 8:00 p.m. (restaurant).
- •3100 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Wednesday, November 21 at 8:30 p.m. (restaurant).

Auto Theft (1)

•1000 block of Lamonte Ln. on Sunday, November 4 at 11:00 a.m. (driveway).

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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NEW GAZETTE DELIVERY COORDINATOR

by Dian Austin

Beginning with this month's newsletter, Lori Kennedy will take over the delivery coordinator role. Lori lives in Section 2 with her husband, Joe Muscara, and has been actively involved in the community for many years. Lori and Joe currently deliver the newsletters to their block each month, and Lori currently serves on GOMO. Both Lori and Joe have been long-time civic club and constable supporters.

As delivery coordinator, Lori will ensure that the bundled Gazettes are delivered monthly to each section coordinator. She will also maintain a cadre of block captain volunteers to cover the actual door to door delivery.

Thanks so much Lori for stepping

into this volunteer role to ensure that the Gazettes are delivered timely each month to all Garden Oaks residents.

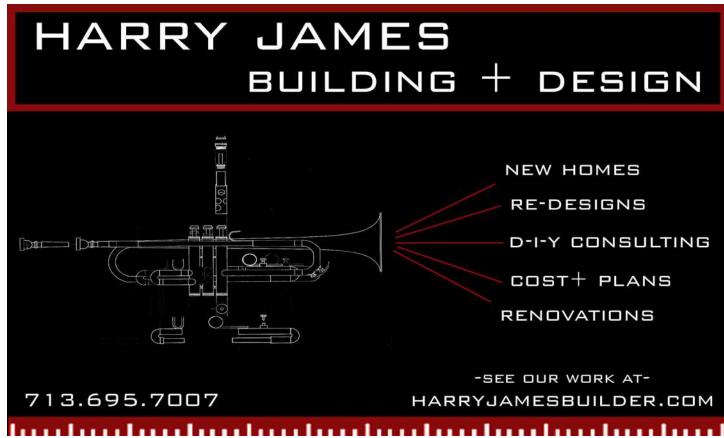
And thanks to several others in the neighborhood who emailed with interest in serving in this position as well.

If anyone has interest in joining the Gazette Delivery Team, please email Lori at lorik1023@gmail.com.









GOMO Board of Directors

Section 1:

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 $Terms\ expire\ October\ of\ year\ in\ parentheses.$

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

By Heather Leverett and Mark Klein

Location: the home of Brian O'Leary and George Appling

December 4, 2012

Welcome: After a festive holiday pot luck dinner and some neighborhood camaraderie, President Mark Klein called the meeting to order at 7:59 p.m.

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

President's Announcements: Thank you to Brian O'Leary and George Appling for once again generously hosting the annual GOCC holiday party. As they have supported the neighborhood, please show your support for their Sherwood Forest Faire in 2013. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Civic Club in 2012. It has been a great year. Santa has returned to the Gazebo. The Home Tour raised \$26,000. The Wine Walk raised \$14,000. The Gazette has been successful with the hard work of Editor Chavonne Slovak, Business Manager Elizabeth Klein and support from former editor Jessica Jarvis and Dian Austin. GODAT has started to be used to manage data, communication and annual memberships. The former Carter's Grove is looking much better as refurbishing continues. When a crime wave hit earlier this year, we had an excellent response from both the Constable and HPD. And we've continued to nurture the neighborhood's relationships with government officials in order to garner attention and prompt responses to neighborhood issues. Plus, the GOCC meetings have had food for much of the year – thanks to generous support from Brother's Pizza on N. Shepherd, which has coneach month.

Budget and Officer Election: A motion was made and carried to approve the 2013 budget as published in the November 2012 Gazette. A motion was made and carried to elect the existing officers (President Mark Klein, Vice President Vic Seghers, Treasurer Phil Ramirez, and Secretary Heather Leverett) for another year.

Standing Committee Reports: GO Citizens Patrol: Carl Waters reported nine crimes in November. Of the nine, five were related to business thefts or burglaries. We have had 77 crimes for 2012 which is a 10% increase over the prior year. Please remember to not advertise your holiday purchases by putting boxes out for regular garbage collection as it puts your home at risk. Instead, Carl recommends recycling those boxes. Also keep an eye out for a roofer scam. Criminals posing as roofers are climbing on tops of homes in order to find other ways to access the home.

Constable Program: Terry Jeanes noted that while crime has been down, there were three crimes in the past twenty four hours: 1) An attempted carjacking near 610 & TC Jester at 12:45am; 2) An armed robbery near 43rd and Mangum, with the suspect thought to be a Hispanic male in a Maroon Impala; 3) A breakin near Shepherd Park Plaza, with the suspect thought to be a light-skinned, black male.

Membership: No update. **Beautification:** No update. **Gazette:** No Update.

GardenOaks.org Website: No

update.

President Klein adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm.

GOMO Review Meetings

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

sistently supplied New York-style pies

A-GO GO SUPPORT GROUP

by Tina Sabuco

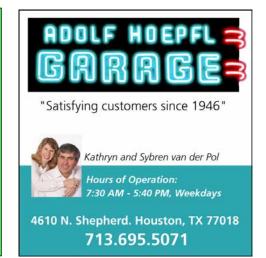
The "Alzheimer's Group of Garden Oaks" (aka "A Go Go") - - a support group for family and friends with loved ones who have Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia, has been meeting on the first Monday of the month since May of last year. We welcome anyone to join us, be it for a single meeting or on a regular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

The January meeting date will be Monday, January 7th. Our meetings are from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at 859 Azalea Street, the home of Tina Sabuco, who is also the foundress of the group. 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.

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/

Interested in seeing the *Gazette*, photos and ads in color? A color *Gazette* is produced and posted each month online at www.gardenoaks.org/involvement/gazette.html.







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CONSTABLE PROGRAM— IMPORTANT— CONSTABLE DUES LAGGING BEHIND...

Become a Supporter Today....

By Terry Jeanes & Susan Love Saranie

Thank you to all who have taken the time to pay their 2013 Constable Supporter Dues. In addition, a thank you to those who donated toys for the Constable Toy Drive. Special thumbs up to the neighbors who personally thanked our special Garden Oaks Deputies for the job well done, following last month's article in the Gazette. Each of them contacted me for a copy, as it made their day. One even stated he felt like a celebrity.

With the efforts to be more ecofriendly by emailing the 2013 form to past supporters in lieu of mailing a hard copy, unfortunately Constable Donations for 2013 are lagging behind. Please send in your payments as soon a possible.

Our Constable Program Works...In

order to make it so, we need your timely support. Please join and support the program today. Keep our Deputies here in the neighborhood.

Vacation Watch form: http://www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/Vacation-Watch.pdf

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

REMINDER: For your alarm company, set the constable patrol as the first responder on your account, rather than HPD. Just call your alarm monitoring service and give them the constable number:

713-755-7628.

Please Program this number in your cell phone.



CHILDREN AND THE NEWS

By Lindsey Pollack

Children are surrounded by a constant stream of information, but the news that is broadcast on TV 24/7 is designed for adult viewers. News flashes, breaking news, and updates routinely interrupt regular programming so even vigilant parents may find is nearly impossible to keep distressing news away from the children. Often parents aren't around to immediately help their children make sense of horrendous situations.

No matter what age your child is, news of horrific events, natural disasters or man-made tragedies can affect them emotionally. Children may feel worried, frightened, angry or confused about events that are reported on TV, internet, radio or in print. Sometimes these emotions stay with a child long after the event. So what can you do as a parent to help your child?

Reassure your children that they

are safe. Let your child know that the things we hear about in the news are rare events. Remind them that every day many good things happen and that most people are safe and secure. Remember that you are the role model that your child is watching. If you stay calm, they will too.

Remind your children that should an emergency happen, there are many people who are here to help.

As Mr. Rogers (http://www.fci.org/new-site/par-tragic-events.html) used to say: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." To this day, especially in times of "disaster," I remember my mother's words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers – so many caring people in this world."

Keep the graphic details of news away from your child. Young children are strongly impacted by visual and audio images that appear in the media. Young children are not able to comprehend distance and time accurately and may believe that the event is recurring and ongoing as it is replayed. A tragedy that occurred far away on a mountain slope may be perceived as an immediate threat to a young child. Turn off the news and limit discussions in front of your child around distressing events.

Listen to your child and be avail**able to answer questions.** Children talk to each other outside of adults company. Many times children receive news and information from friends that may not be accurate and may be dramatized or exaggerated. Allow your child the time and space to verbalize what they think about the events and ask questions. Address their concerns and help them focus on solutions and hope for the future. Most of all, reassure them of your love and let them know that you and the grown-ups around them are working hard to keep them safe.



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.

810 West 42nd 215 West 34th 1020 West 42nd 722 West 38th 737 West 42nd 821 West 34th 312 West 30th 1007 West 41st 805 West 31st 902 West 41st

January Birthdays

Hannah Stender- 4th Phil Ramirez- 10th Patricia Semands – 19th Lindsay Veech—24th Joe Muscara—30th Shellye Arnold-30th Happy Belated to Chris Lindsay— December 13th and Sabrina Innocenti-December 15th.

Happy Anniversary to Bonnie & Rudy Hernandez.

Celebrations for the good news via clean report for Emma Maltbie and blessings to the entire Maltbie family.

Out and About:

Dian Austin visited the Christmas markets in Germany.

Art and Chris Lindsay visited New Orleans.

Hal Bowman and Georgia Lister hosted their 12th Annual Caroling Party.

Joe Crownover and Jennifer Langdon along with Taylor and Garrett were seen in Garden Oaks catching up with family and many friends for the holidays as they visited from the Netherlands.

Condolences to Leslie Saunders on the loss of her beloved dog and companion, Sasha. Special thoughts also to Liz Terrell on the loss of her beloved cat Ozzie.



Tina Sabuco, Terry Jeanes and Georgia *Lister.* Have they been naughty or nice?

Santa Returns to Gazebo

After a 3 year hiatus from a tradition that was started by longtime Garden Oaks residents Bill and Susan McMillian, Santa made a pre-Christmas stop at the glowing holiday lights and brought cheer to more than 150 children at the Garden Oaks Gazebo. 4 of the smallest visitors were under 6 weeks of age. Thanks to Santa's helpers -Tina Sabuco, Georgia Lister, and Terry Jeanes along with Hal Bowman, Jim McDaniel, and Chuck Blessner. Plans are already under way for Santa's visit next year.

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



2013 Spring Baseball and Softball

Boys Ages 4-15; Girls Ages 4-16

Sign-up at the ODC Clubhouse at 3410 East T.C. Jester every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm & every Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm through Saturday, February 9th



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DISTRICT C COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN SEEKS INPUT ON GAR-DEN OAKS ISSUES

By Chavonne Slovak

As part of an outreach effort to constituents in District C, City of Houston Council Member Ellen Cohen met with a few Garden Oaks residents last month to hear first-hand any issues or concerns important to them and the neighborhood in general.

During an introduction, Council Member Cohen provided an overview of the strong mayoral form of government in Houston and the tremendous diversity both within District C and throughout the city. This characteristic that epitomizes a cosmopolitan city such as Houston also presents challenges when developing new ordinances or policies that will be implemented throughout the city. Two topics that will be up for discussion in the near future by City Council include rules for food trucks and single stream recycling.

Several concerns were voiced by Garden Oaks residents, including poor drainage harboring mosquitoes under driveway culverts, deed restriction enforcement, speeding traffic, temporary increased cutthrough neighborhood traffic due to construction, as well as long term traffic growth, particularly along W. 43rd street. The wealth of green spaces and trails that are available in Houston and the rapidly increasing connectivity between these areas spaces and other sections of the city were discussed, along with a need for the city or other entity to actively market these attributes to citizens and visitors.

To report problems with infrastructure or other issues, Council Member Cohen strongly recommended calling the city's 311 Hotline to report the problem. A tracer number will be provided by 311 that will allow for easy follow up on corrective actions generated by the call. If the issue is not resolved in a reasonable time, the tracer number along with your description of the issue can then be forwarded to the District C office for our council member and/or staff to investigate. This provides another avenue for concerned citizens to actively participate in keeping our neighborhood and city safe and clean.

Council Member Cohen serves on several committees within the City Council, including the Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee; the Ethics, Elections and Council Governance Committee; the Quality of Life Committee; and the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee. For more information see the City of Houston web site link below. If you would like to be informed about various city issues of interest, you can sign up to receive email notifications from the city by signing up for Citizens Net. The Deed Restriction Hotline 832-393-6333 is also a resource that can be utilized.

Useful links:

http://cohapp.cityofhouston.gov/citizensnet/Registration.aspx

http://www.houstontx.gov/council/c/index.html

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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.

Also join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/

FARMERS MARKET CELEBRATES 1 YEAR SERVING GARDEN OAKS

By Mickey Morales

Welcome to our first installment of the goings-on from The Farm Stand @ Petrol Station. We will celebrate our one year anniversary on January 28th 2012. So far we have received a delightful outpouring of support from the neighborhood: moms and dads with children in tow, folks out walking their dogs (which are welcome by the way), shoppers looking for the freshest produce around and supporters of our patron Ben & company of Petrol Station, shopping and eating while they wait for his place to open. You can find us every Saturday morning 9 am to 1 pm in the lot across from Petrol Station. Look for the white tents.

Despite our small size we have a lot to offer:

At **Sullivan's Happy Heart Farm**, Cathy not only offers her own true





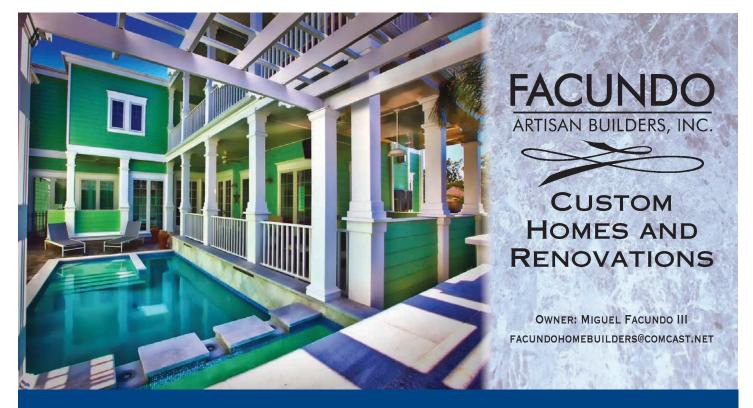
Winter harvest available from the Farm Stand every Saturday from 9 am to 1 PM at 985 Wakefield-across from the Petrol Station.

free range eggs and sustainably grown fruits and veggies, she also offers fresh goat cheese from Hammond Farms, local honey from Big Creek Berry Farm (sorry no berries until April or May), Texas Hill Country Olive Oil, and soup mix in a jar.

Christy's Kitchen offers jams, jellies and pickled veggies. Specialty items include a seasonal Meyer Lemon jelly and Sundae in a Jar with raspberry, strawberry and Godiva chocolate.

A selection of prepared Indian dishes such as chicken or vegetable masala, saag paneer, assorted chutneys and samosas, and naan from **Nisha's Quick and Easy Indian Foods**. All foods are prepared using local produce.

Hand carved wooden spoons and knives, and cutting boards all artfully created from salvaged wood by Matt from **Storm Ware Creations**, as seen on Fox TV. A new offering by Matt is the exotic wood pendant.



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Gus Nawara and Family have been farming sustainably using no chemicals since 1993. They provide sustainably grown fruits and veggies in season and local honev and other seasonal items.

A recent addition is Chi Rho Crafts that offers beautiful cross and angel themed, hand-crafted plagues made from stone, tile, slate and marble.

And finally **under my tent** not only will I cook you breakfast from items found at the market, I also offer free range chicken from Bryan Farms, pastured pork sausages from Harrison Hog Farm, fresh baked bread from Angela's Oven and locally roasted coffee.

During the winter months you should expect to find, along with the pantry items listed above, lettuces both whole head and leaf mixes up to ten varieties, arugula, two kinds of kale, sorrel, chard, turnips, carrots, sweet potatoes, beets and radishes,

along with cabbage, broccoli, fennel, kohlrabi and cauliflower. Winter is also a big time for citrus, Meyer lemons, Satsuma tangerines and grapefruit. The farmers will also have lots of herbs, rosemary, dill, mint, oregano, flat leaf parsley, garlic chives and edible flowers. Did I mention we have pecans?

Try this simple recipe with fresh beets:

Wash the beets and remove greens



and long tap root. Place on beets on foil and drizzle with olive oil. Add salt, pepper, a splash of balsamic vinegar and a bay leaf. Seal the foil and roast in a 400° oven for 40 to 45 minutes. Peel the beets, slice and eat alone or add to salads.



4th generation sustainable farmer Joyce Nawara



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ANNUAL GOES PANCAKE BREAK-FAST & SILENT AUCTION

By Stephanie Dubroff-Acosta

On Saturday, February 9, volunteer dads and granddads will flip thousands of free pancakes, serve up Katz's hot coffee, and auction off thousands of dollars worth of merchandise in continuation of a 19-year tradition that has helped set Garden Oaks Elementary School (GOES) stand apart as an exceptional and diverse learning community.

This year's event will take place on February 9th, 2013 from 8:00-11:00 a.m. at Garden Oaks Elementary School, 901 Sue Barnett, Houston, Texas 77018. Golden brown pancakes, warm syrup, sausage, coffee, and juice are free to the community.

In 2010, GOES won the U.S. Department of Education Magnet Schools Assistance Program grant for approximately \$3 million. The grant helped establish GOES as a Montessori Magnet School with Environmental Sciences. Enrollment has since increased by more than 30 percent.



Sponsored by the GOES Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), the breakfast helps cover funding gaps that the grant, state funding, and other public agencies cannot. GOES soon faces the added challenge that the grant will run out and the school has not yet secured additional funds. Key among the school's funding needs are adequate staff and materials to support the Montessori teaching style, technology in the classroom, field trips, and student art and enrichment programs. Each year we gather to show appreciation for our community and to come together to support our children and our school.

GOES needs your help to continue to achieve greatness. The call for silent auction donations and event underwriters for the 2013 edition is now well under way.

To underwrite a portion of the annual breakfast or to donate auction items, please contact the silent auction coordinator, Jennifer Perry, at 214-693-9030 or email gardenoaks.pancake@gmail.com. For more information about Garden Oaks Elementary School, call (713) 696-2930.



ARBOR DAY 2013

By Chavonne Slovak

Arbor Day is a National holiday that is officially designated as the last Friday in April, but can occur any time between January and May, depending on favorable tree planting conditions. The first Arbor Day was celebrated in Nebraska on April 10th, 1872, when J. Sterling Morton challenged the state's counties and schools to plant as many trees as possible on that day. The event was held annually and by 1885 it became a legal holiday that would be celebrated on Morton's birthday, April 22. Nationally Arbor Day is celebrated as a reminder of the importance of trees to human life and is part of the awareness that we may need to cultivate "nature" a bit in order to preserve it.

The Arbor Day Foundation recommends acknowledgment of the holiday by

- planting a tree as an act of kindness and a commitment to stewardship
- · reading a book about trees
- learning to identify the trees in your yard or neighborhood
- visiting a local park or taking a hike
- attending a class on tree and plant care, or
- volunteering with a local treeplanting effort.

The City of Houston's 27th Annual Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for 8:00 a.m., Saturday, January 26th. It continues a multi-year effort called Re-Plant Houston, dedicated to reforesting the Houston parks that were devastated by the drought of 2011. Anyone that would like to help ensure that the city's Urban Forest will continue to provide shade, beauty, and clean air for years to come is encouraged to volunteer.

The 2013 tree planting will focus on Hermann, MacGregor, Memorial, Montie Beach, De Zavala, and Tuffly Parks. Volunteer pre-registration is required so please contact H.P.A.R.D.'s Volunteer Coordinator at oneika.shelby@houstontx.gov or 832.395.7280 to sign up.

In 2012 nearly 2,000 volunteers planted 25,000 trees in Hermann, Memorial, Mason, and MacGregor Parks, which were the most heavily affected by the drought.

Source: http://www.arborday.org/arborday/celebrate.cfm

http://houstontx.gov/parks/arborday.html





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CHOOSING A CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR FOR YOUR HOME

By Mitch Weigand

Carbon monoxide poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning in the United States. It is an odorless, tasteless, invisible gas and the result of incomplete combustion of wood, kerosene, gasoline, charcoal, propane, natural gas, and oil.

In the home, it can be formed by any flame-fueled (not electric) device such as your oven, clothes dryer, furnace, fireplace, gas space heater or gas water heater. If vented properly, the carbon monoxide will escape to the outside. If they are not, the results can be deadly.

When carbon monoxide is inhaled, it passes from the lungs into the blood-stream. There it interferes with **Cont. on next page.**

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oxygen transported within the red blood cells, causing the body to become oxygen-starved. With low-level poisoning, you may feel like you have the flu or a cold, with shortness of breath, mild headaches and nausea. High levels can result in unconsciousness, permanent brain damage and ultimately death. Babies, children, pregnant women, people with circulatory or respiratory problems and the elderly are especially vulnerable.

How does a carbon monoxide detector function?

The accumulation of carbon monoxide triggers a chemical or electrochemical reaction within the detector which prompts the alarm to sound. Most detectors require a continuous power supply so they can become inoperable when your electricity is cut off. Some models offer back-up battery power to

prevent this. Detectors should be placed on a wall nearest your A/C's return air. With multi-level homes that have a second A/C unit, each floor needs a separate detector.

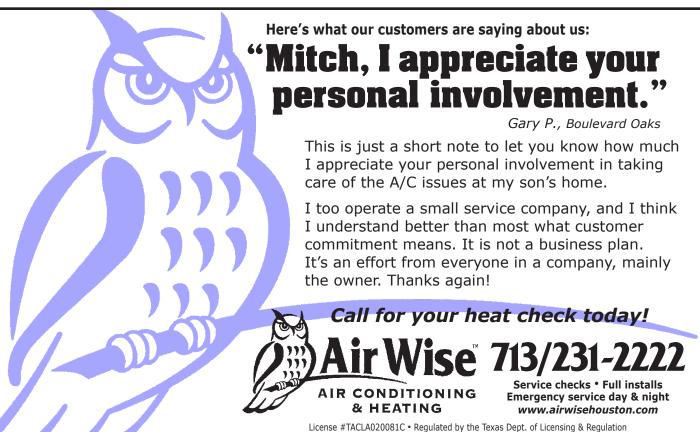
Don't ignore the alarm! It's programmed to alert you before you experience symptoms. When it goes off, silence the alarm and get everyone into the fresh air outside. If anyone is experiencing symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, call 911 immediately. If this is not the case, ventilate your home, track down and remedy the carbon monoxide before returning inside. Then have all appliances or chimneys checked by a professional as soon as possible.

The brands I prefer are Kidde and First Alert. Both are very sensitive to carbon monoxide, are durable (lasting about seven years), have an easy-to-follow digital read-out

and a battery back-up should you lose electricity. Some models even come with a voice prompt that tells you its various alerts.

Mitch is the owner of Air WiseTM 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 his previous columns from the Garden Oaks Gazette can be found at www. airwisehouston.com.





CRITTER CORNER

by Casey and Dorothy Dan Farris

Happy 2013! I know you are busy making resolutions and putting up Christmas decorations so we will keep it short and sweet this month. The winner of our name that breed contest, "Who's Your Daddy" will be posted on our website www.godogusa.com this month, along with the results of the Canine DNA test. Check out this new yellow ribbon campaign via The Yellow Dog Project. As word gets out, it will be a quick visual indicator to others that a yellow ribbon on your dog's leash means that he needs a bit more personal space.

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.





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Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 1/4 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.
- Camera-ready artwork must be submitted by the 15th of each month for publication the following month and emailed to: gazette@gardenoaks.org
- 3. Artwork must be emailed in the following formats: JPEG (.jpg) or GIF (.gif) or high resolution pdf.



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Cont. from page 1.

and constable candidates, hear how the city enforces deed restrictions, and lastly, we elected officers for 2013 and celebrated the holidays with a festive pot luck dinner. Throughout the year, we ate lots of free Brother's Pizza at the meetings and got a chance to meet new neighbors.

The civic club coordinates two substantial neighborhood fundraisers: the biannual Home and Garden Tour, and the annual Wine Walk.

Civic club funds have been used to support a variety of neighborhood interests, including helping the Waltrip Ram Marching Band get to the upcoming presidential inauguration, assisting the Spark Park shade canopy project, rebuilding the gazebo in Gazebo Park, initiating GO-DAT (Garden Oaks Data Acquisition Tool – our online database project), contributing to the GOES PTA, supporting and coordinating Citizens' Patrol, helping with area green space beautification efforts, and maintaining the gardenoaks.org website. The biggest use of civic club funds benefits us all: paying the balance due on the constable contract that is funded by area residents.

While GOMO funds 2 of our 3 constable contracts annually, the 3rd contract is paid entirely by area residents through their constable dues. Sadly, we don't have enough volunteer constable supporters and always come up short; the civic club steps in to pay the deficit due on this contract. Having a constable presence benefits every resident of Garden Oaks by providing homeowners with almost 24/7 constable coverage in the neighborhood.

The civic club meets the first Tuesday

of every month at 7 pm at Garden Oaks Elementary School, Sue Barnett at GO Blvd. Meetings generally last about an hour, and during that time, we learn about significant events that may have happened in the neighborhood, get constable program and crime updates, become aware of upcoming events, and perhaps gain new information from a guest speaker.

Membership in the civic club is totally voluntary and covers the calendar year. As part of our Go Green Initiative, we will not be doing a paper mail out for 2013 civic club and constable supporter dues; instead email reminders were sent to those residents whose current addresses were on file. There is a civic club membership form and a constable supporter form in each month's Gazette that you can mail in (with your check), or you can choose to pay online at http://www. gardenoaks.org. Please do your part to keep our civic club growing and our constables on the street!

2013 Paid Civic Club Members as of 12/15/12-Thank You!

Anderson-Wood George Austin Dian Sandy Altman Avers Tammy Baldwin Karen Ball **Jaime Bartos** John & Cindy Bell David & Gail Best Ann Cheryl Pressley Blachowiak Elva **Boyd Bill** Cindy Menchaca Brannan Mark & Cimbrey Robert Anastasia Broughton Larry Brown James & Rebecca **Brown Cheryl** Jeanine Fisher Bullock Eileen Lisa Peters Capfer Jim Coleman Teresa Pam Parks Cooper Terence Cornelius David & Lillian Cox Andrea Dave & Cindy Curran de Alba Ed & Brenda Suzanne Debien DeDontney Nora Raajen Patel Doherty Emmett San Juana Gonzales Duncan Dennis Dupre Monica **Edwards** Bill & Jennie Eickenhorst WG & Jo Ann **Epstein** Kerri & Robbie **Ernst** Sheridan Fox Laura & Kevin Giles Amanda Glaze Catherine Goad Karie & Alvn Gomez Julie Gorman Gale & Robin Griffiths John Hamilton Ann Hein Evelvn Jackie Gieptner Hurliman Bonnie David Canitz Jim & Linda Janssen Jez Sean & Beth Khosla Joan **Kissling Randy** Mary Tipton Kittell Reagan Knauth Tonya & Rick Peter & Lois Kozak Eleanor Larato Leverett Heather Stephen Mink Lowe Farrah Glen Bethke McBee Lisa McKemie John & Lynn Montgomery Pat Mike Gurski Morris William Munden Glenn Michael Holcomb Neatherv Vance David Payne Pfeiffer-Traum Deborah & Alan Raborn Reichle Rusty & Linda Reid Melissa Richard James & Susan Ripple John & Wanda Shellye Arnold Sabuco Tina Mark & Susan Saranie Schoenfield Seyffert Ken & Sandra Shaughnessy Bill & Amy Shepperd Glenn Slovak Chavonne, Trent Smith Carol & Sandy Smith Peggy Smith Scott **Chuck Evans** Spinks Lynda Sultanik Michael & Dinah **Taylor** Michael & Kerry **Taylor** James, LouAnn Terrell Elizabeth Theaker Helen & Tom David & Peggy Tinkev Waldau Michael & Susan Warhen Catalina Waters Carl Jr. Leslie Rvan Willburn James, MaryEllen Winford Shirley



Garden Oaks Kids

By Kristen Jordan

Garden Oaks is a vibrant and friendly neighborhood in Houston, TX. With over 300 families, GO Kids has agebased playgroups, a Moms' Night Out, new parent dinner drops, a book club, a babysitting co-op, potlucks, and many other scheduled activities. The ages of kids in the group range from newborns to school-aged--- all Garden Oaks families are welcome.

Current GO Kids Monthly Group Outings: Look for more details on bigtent.com.



Moms' Night Out

Playgroups -

GO Babies – 0-2 Years Go Buddies – 2-5 Years

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.

Cookbook –Order today at GardenO-aksCooks.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): Lisa Rentschler 832-752-7510 lisa.d.rentschler@sbcglobal.net 1050 Gardenia Drive Houston, TX 77018



Website / Communication – www. gardenoakskids.com

Our website continues to grow; now it is 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 Lisa Rentschler (lisa.d.rentschler@sbcglobal.net) for all the details.



Mr. Congeniality, aka Blackie. Found at Ella and 23rd. No calls from owners in response to postings.

19

Calm but outgoing, house trained, dog-friendly, shiny black coat. FIV postive. Needs to find single cat family -indoor only. 281-827-7212

JANUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		NEW YEAR	Civic Club mtg 7:00pm, GOES	3	4	5 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
6	7	8 A-Go Go Meeting 859 Azalea, 7 PM	9	10	11 HISD Magnet Applications Due	12 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
13	14	15	16 GOMO mtg, 7pm	17 HEAVYTRASH PICKUP	18	19 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
20	21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26 Farmers Mar- ket, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield Arbor Day
27	28	29	30	31	1	2 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield



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