

GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

VOLUME 37

ISSUE 2

ANNUAL GOES PANCAKE BREAKFAST & SILENT AUCTION

By Devin Hunter

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 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.

Continued on Page 9. Pancake



Please remember to pay Civic Club and Constable Dues for 2013. Pay online at www.gardenoaks.org, or complete for included forms.

FEB 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

GOES Pancake Breakfast

February 9, 2013
Garden Oaks Elementary
8 AM

February Civic Club Meeting

February 5, 2013
Garden Oaks Elementary
7 PM

IN THIS ISSUE

- Heard Under the Oak Tree ... 2
- Citizens Patrol ... 3
- GO Civic Club Meeting ... 4
- Gazette Delivery ... 6
- Constable Program...6
- GO Read ... 7
- A-Go-Go Meeting ... 7
- Peace on Earth ... 8
- Montessori Educators Meet @ GOES ... 10
- Pancake Breakfast Cond. ... 9
- A-Go Go Meeting ...10
- 2013 Heavy Trash Schedule ...10
- Yard of the Month ... 11
- Mickey's Minute ... 14
- Critter Corner ... 15
- Furnace Replacement... 16
- Advertising Rates ... 18
- Constable Dues Form ...19
- Events Calendar ... 20

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.

950 Lamonte	1042 West 43rd
4223 Apollo	717 West 41st
951 Lamonte	202 West 32nd
930 West 43rd	1002 West 43rd
983 Gardenia	919 West 42nd

February Birthdays

Tonya Knauth-9th
 Alisha Cunningham-12th
 Lela Cunningham-12th
 Brenda de Alba-17th
 Maya Rahman-23rd
 Shannon King-28th
 Eddie Battenfield

Anniversaries

Will and Deanna Zugheri—23rd.

Celebrations

Happy Retirement -**Brenda de Alba**. Congratulations to **Sarah Klein** now a member of TUTS Humphreys School of Musical Theatre. Congratulations to **Robert Deveau** on the Houston Marathon, along with all the other Garden Oaks participants. Congrats to **Alisha Cunningham** and kick off of Caliber Girl. Kudos to **Emily Roberts** along with fellow Waltrip Senior High RAM Band members who played at the festivities for the Presidential Inauguration. Mom, **Jane Ann Roberts** served as a band chaperone.

Out and About

The McLeans enjoyed Telluride Colorado. **The Shaugnessys** were seen in the crowd watching the Texas Tech Red Raiders at the Meineke Car Care Bowl. **Sue Schmidt** took her grandsons to

experience Aggie Midnight Yell Practice at the Ft Worth Stockyards, and then to see A&M's win over OU in the Cotton Bowl. **Robert Deveau** was in Orlando and Vegas. **George Appling** mixed in with the crowd at the Consumer Electronics Show in Vegas. **Eric and Jessica Jarvis** enjoyed Ohio for holidays and a family wedding. **Jason, Cat, and Mae Theriot** went to Disneyworld. **Brenda & Ed de Alba** enjoyed the Chihuly glass exhibit at the Dallas Arboretum. **Tina Rowe** traveled to Vegas. **Georgia Lister, Hal Bowman, Tina Sabuco, and Shellye Arnold** cut up at Catastrophic Theatre's HeeHaw Hootenanny Gala.

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

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 Jr.

For those of you not on the listserv* there were a couple of incidents reported there in January regarding door to door sales people. In one case two males approached a home and when the occupants asked what they wanted via an intercom system the males ran off. In a second incident, a fast talking male approached the home owner and left when told by the home owner he was not interested in what the male had to offer. The home owner was suspicious of the man and followed him noting he did not stop at many other houses as he went down the street. A Houston Police Officer happened to drive by and when the man saw the police car, he ran across N. Shepherd to a van in the parking lot near the Subway store and drove off northbound on Shepherd.

Please folks, when anyone approaches your door, be courteous to them and if you are not interested in what they offer, tell them so. All persons selling door to door in the City of Houston are required to have a peddler's license from the city. If they don't have one I would not do business with them and I would report them to the Houston Police Department. You can report the situation to the Constable as well, but since it is a city ordinance the person is violating, the Constable cannot enforce it.

December Crime Statistics (6)

Assault (1)

4200 block of Alba on Friday, December 7 at 12:55 a.m. (street).

Burglary (4)

900 block of Althea Dr. on Monday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. (garage).
1000 block of Lamonte Ln. on

Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 a.m. (residence).
800 block of W. 31st St. on Friday, December 14 at 12:19 p.m. (residence).
900 block of Gardenia on Tuesday, December 18 at 12:00 midnight (residence).

Auto Theft (1)

2900 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Tuesday, December 18 at 6:30 a.m. (medical supply store).

According to the Houston Police Department Crime Statistics we had 83 crimes reporting in 2012 and 70 reported in 2011- a 19% increase in crime for the year.

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 at GOCOP77018@AOL.com or by phone at 713-864-1992.

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Home: 713.861.4190
abest1@comcast.net

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Open Position (2013)

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Dea Larson (2015)
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dealarson@aol.com

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1567 Sue Barnett
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timweltin@mycase.info

Jim Willburn (2015)
1583 Sue Barnett Dr.
713.812.0564
jimwillburn@yahoo.com

Terms expire October of year in parentheses.

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

By Heather Leverett, Secretary and Makr Klein, President

January 2, 2013

Location: Garden Oaks Elementary School

Welcome: After pizza was served (courtesy of Brother’s Pizzeria, 3820 North Shepherd Dr.), President Mark Klein called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. A motion was made and carried to accept the December 2012 minutes as published in the December Gazette.

President’s Announcements: In a discussion on pedestrian safety, President Klein recommended that neighbors notify 311 if they notice any crosswalks that need repainting. A request President Klein made to the City to repaint the school / pedestrian crossing at Sue Barnett and 43rd was completed in less than 2 weeks. President Klein also discussed the upcoming deadline to submit an annual SNAP grant as part of the City’s Super Neighborhood program, asking for suggestions. The GOCC members present expressed interest in seeking funds to plant trees in area pocket parks.

Pedestrian Safety: GOCC members then discussed pedestrian safety concerns around the Garden Oaks Elementary School. There was interest in exploring if more speed bumps could be installed to help slow down traffic. One other suggestion was to replace speed bumps that had been deteriorating with the newer rubber ones that seem to slow traffic more effectively.

Santa at the Gazebo: President Klein recognized GO residents Terry Jeanes, Georgia Lister and Tina Sabuco for their outstanding efforts to success-

fully reinstate a long-time GOCC tradition, Santa at the Gazebo. The festive, two-day event was a success, drawing a host of families who visited Santa and enjoyed beverages and a table full of cookies, donated by several neighbors. (The annual event was the primary driver behind the GOCC voting to rebuild the Gazebo with builder Harry James.)

Garden Oaks Elementary School (GOES) Magnet Funding: The GOCC members discussed the status of Magnet grant funding for GOES – now in its third year of transition to an all-Montessori / Environmental Sciences Magnet campus. The transition was supported by a \$3 million federal Magnet School Assistance Program grant that ends this year. However, HISD has yet to commit the Magnet funding needed to sustain the program.

The GOES conversion, established in 2010, has proved to be in high demand among families, with full enrollment this year (650 students) and a waiting list that continues to grow. GOES is moving forward to expand its Montessori classrooms to 8th grade. In order to meet the student demand for this unique public education program, HISD Magnet funding is needed.

Several concerned GOCC members asked how they could advocate for HISD Magnet funding. Two other HISD Montessori programs receive operating funds from HISD amounting to approximately \$250,000. Zero dollars have been budgeted for the GOES Magnet program. Meanwhile, Magnet Schools of America – a consulting group hired to perform the last HISD Magnet school audit – recommended that GOES receive funding.

The federal grant that ends this

year enabled GOES to move from 6 Montessori classrooms in 2009 to 24 in 2012-13. The grant funded needed educational materials, training for new teachers and environmental sciences components. It also funded five full-time teaching assistants and the magnet coordinator, responsible for implementing the Magnet educational programs and associated teacher training. Funding will support a continuing, authentic Montessori choice for public school students in the area.

Standing Committee Reports:

Membership: Dian Austin reported that the annual GOCC membership and Constable Patrol drive is in full swing. Ms. Austin encouraged neighbors to support the GOCC and its efforts to provide safety and beautification for the neighborhood. Donation forms were in the December Gazette. Residents can also download the forms or pay online at gardenoaks.org. GOCC members also discussed ways to increase membership and how to make it easier to pay annual dues. Brenda de Alba won the monthly GOCC Membership drawing, taking home a Lowe's Gift card.

GO Citizens Patrol: Carl Waters said 6 crimes were reported on the Houston Police Department (HPD) website for December (1 assault, 4 burglaries and 1 Auto Theft). Crimes continue to trend toward early mornings. For 2012, total crimes reported were 83 (up from 70 in 2011), approximately a 19% increase. Additional GOCOP patrollers are welcome. Patrollers must be a Garden Oaks Resident, 18 years of age, and able to pass a criminal background by HPD.

Constable Program: Terry Jeanes noted that Alan Rosen, newly elected Constable for Precinct One, was sworn into office January 1. Ms. Jeanes said

she expects changes on the horizon for Constable, Precinct One. The GOCC Constable Patrol contract was extended through February 2014. In neighborhood crime news, Ms. Jeanes said criminal activity had been relatively quiet during December.

Beautification: No update.

Gazette: New Gazette Delivery Coordinator Lori Kennedy said one or two people are needed to deliver Gazettes in the 200-300 blocks of W. 31st and the 400-500 blocks of W. 31st. If interested in volunteering, please send Lori a message at gazettedelivery@gardenoaks.org.

GardenOaks.org Website: No update.

Garden Oaks Elementary School: GOES Principal Lindsey Pollock updated the GOCC on the HISD building project that will expand the school through 8th grade. The project was part of the HISD bond election that passed November 2012, providing new building construction to replace or repair 40 schools. Ms. Pollock reported that the first design meeting was held recently; attendees heard from students and others about what they considered to be the ideal school. Project completion is slated for 2017.

President Klein adjourned the meeting at 8 pm.

YMCA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PRESENTATION AT FEBRUARY CC MEETING

Join your neighbors for the February Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting and learn about the YMCA Partners Program . The Partners Program provides full and partial scholarships for children to attend summer day camp, participate in youth sports and have a safe and nurturing place to go

after school. This program also allows seniors who could not otherwise afford it an outlet for social activities and exercise programs designed specifically for them.



Our guest speaker will be Paule Anne Lewis, Garden Oaks resident and YMCA Board Member, as the Y kicks off its annual campaign this month. For more information on how to support the Partners Program or the fundraising campaign, please contact Landrum Turner, Executive Director for the YMCA, at 713-869-3378.

Come out to the next GOCC gathering to meet your neighbors, discuss our neighborhood protection and other programs, and enjoy free pizza, courtesy of Brother's Pizzeria on N. Shepherd.

OAKS DADS' CLUB
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 or
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NEW GAZETTE DELIVERERS NEEDED

By Lori Kennedy

Two new Gazette deliverers are needed for Section 1. One person is needed to deliver the 200-300 blocks of W. 31st and a second person is needed to deliver the 400-500 blocks of W. 31st. (Or one industrious person could deliver both routes.)

Many thanks to **Mary Martinez** for all her years of service in delivering these W. 31st street routes.

Also, it would be helpful to have an additional person or two "on-call" to be a back-up deliverer for any route when the regular person is unavailable. **Anyone interested in helping out with Gazette delivery** should contact Lori Kennedy at gazettedelivery@gardenoaks.org.

CONSTABLE PROGRAM—CALL FOR CONSTABLE DUES PAYMENT...

Become a Supporter Today

By Terry Jeanes & Susan Love Saranie

The Garden Oaks Constable Program needs you. Please take the time to pay your 2013 Constable Supporter Dues with the form emailed to past supporters, the link below, or the form in this newsletter. Due to efforts to be more to be ecological and economical we have eliminated a hard copy mailing. Please help continue the Constable Program by expediting one of the options for payment.

Precinct One Deputy Constable Alan Rosen was sworn in on January 1st. The community will see some visual changes, i.e. in uniforms, community signage, and a few others. Our Deputies – Brien Le, Joseph Lane, and Rene Sosa are still present. Per the most recent verbal updates from our guys on the street it has been quieter, but they are continually checking plates,

and the identification of suspicious parties. Proactive policing is the key. Your eyes are needed too.

Supporter Link / Form: <http://gardenoaks.org/constableform>

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 constable patrol as the first responder on your account, rather than HPD, for prompt response to alarms.

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GO READ

By Allison Kirby

Calling all bookworms! We are looking for new members for our Garden Oaks Book and Supper Club.



The Garden Oaks book club GO READ: Garden Oaks Read Eat And Discuss Chapter 2 is starting its 4th year and looking for a few fresh faces. Our format is for 12 members to meet once a month, with each member taking a turn to host dinner and a lively discussion of that month's selection. Our members are all ages; we read a diverse selection of books and always have a fun time! Please contact Allison Kirby at dearalikirby@gmail.com to learn more.

A-GO-GOs 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 February meeting date will be Monday, February 4th. Our meetings are from 7:00 – 9:00 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. Please also make a note of these future meetings: **March 4th, April 1st, May 6th.**

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LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

By Lindsey Pollock

One pillar of Montessori education is peace. Having lived through two world wars, Maria Montessori was painfully aware of the destruction of war and worked tirelessly to promote her message of peace through her teaching methodology. She felt that by developing a method of education that valued and honored every human being from the beginning of their lives, we could avoid the strife of war not only as countries, but as a planet. Lofty goals some might say, but a philosophy upon which Montessorians build daily lessons and implement learning communities on campus!

Some of the core components of this peace curriculum are creating a caring community through multi-age classrooms. Children start with a teacher and stay with the teacher for three years. As the entering class

ages, these student assume leadership roles and responsibilities as mentors to younger children. Teachers, students and parents form bonds over this time and are committed to the success of the children.



Maria Montessori (1933)

Another Montessori component focuses on lessons in grace and courtesy. Children enter the classroom in the morning greeted by the teacher and are expected to exemplify care

and compassion for one another through out the day. When strife does inevitably arise, children are assigned to the peace table to work through their differences and develop a plan for action. Children are also taught to monitor their physical space and to restore their working environment before moving to another activity. This care in monitoring their environment promotes citizenship and responsibility.

Finally, at the end of each day, students and teacher part by shaking hands and wishing one another well until the next day. These simple lessons can be integrated into the routines of your home and are designed to honor the purpose and value of every child. Dr. Maria Montessori was nominated four times for her devotion to world peace; she would be glad to know her legacy lives on in the light of every child!

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Continued from Pg 1. Pancake

Sponsored by the GOES Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), the breakfast helps cover funding gaps that the grant, state funding, and other public agencies cannot. We soon face the added challenge that our grant will run out and we have 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. **We need your help to continue to achieve greatness in our school!**

2013 Auction will include items from the Houston Rockets and Houston Aeros, tickets to several of Houston's finest performing arts groups, certificates to many of Houston's favorite restaurants and many more. The most coveted auction items are the class projects from each classroom. These are beautiful collaborations and creations from the children in our community.

The call for silent auction donations and event underwriters is still under way. 2013 Underwriters include **Signature Smiles** and **Jenni's Noodle House**.

To underwrite a portion of the breakfast or to donate auction items, please contact Jennifer Perry at 214-693-9030 or email gardenoaks.pancake@gmail.com.



Sample Auction Item

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GOES TO HOST PUBLIC MONTESSORI EDUCATORS OF TEXAS (PMET) CONFERENCE

By Renee Toth-Flenner

Public Montessori Educators of Texas (PMET) announced today that this year's conference theme is Montessori: Surviving and Thriving in the Public School Setting. The 7th annual conference is sponsored by Friends of Montessori and will be held Friday, March 1 through Sunday, March 3, 2013 at Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet school, in Houston, TX.

The keynote speakers for the conference are Alfie Kohn and Dennis Schapiro. Mr. Kohn is a well-known author and lecturer on topics in education, parenting, and human behavior. He is the author of twelve books, including FEEL BAD EDUCATION and other Contrarian Essays on Children and Schooling (2011), and numerous articles. Kohn is considered a leader in progressive education and his assessments of many aspects of traditional education have been widely discussed and debated. Time magazine has described him as "perhaps the country's most outspoken critic of education's fixation on grades [and] test scores."

Mr. Schapiro is the editor and publisher of the Public School Montessorian newspaper. A former member of the Minneapolis school board, he currently serves on the boards of the Twin Cities Media Alliance and Bright Water Montessori School.

PMET has grown since its inception and has become a resource for educators and parents alike. Marie Pousson, Children's House teacher

at Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet states, "What Montessori teachers do in a public setting can be a huge paradigm shift for people like me. Being able to network with others in public schools who are trying to implement an authentic Montessori program, and still ensure that students meet district standards is so fulfilling for me. Like any conference, learning from colleagues is both informative and often inspiring."

The conference will begin on Friday, March 1st with check-in, registration, and a tour of Houston's three public Montessori schools. Saturday, March 2nd includes a lecture by renowned author and speaker Alfie Kohn, as well as breakout workshops that focus on elevating and sustaining Montessori education within the classroom and the community. Saturday's events will conclude with speaker Dennis Schapiro. Festivities can be extended to Sunday, March 3rd with the Wilson Montessori PTO Gala which will be held at the Saint Arnold's Brewery, Houston, TX. The PMET conference is hosted this year by Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet and Houston Independent School District (HISD).

More information can be found at www.allmontessori.org or www.facebook.com/PMET2013.

About Friends of Montessori:

This year's PMET conference is sponsored by Friends of Montessori (FOM), a Houston non-profit that supports and advocates for authentic Montessori Programs in the Houston Independent School District (HISD) since 1994. FOM is a vital partner in enhancing the educational experiences of our children.

OAKS DADS' CLUB

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 or Register online at www.ODCsports.com



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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.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Humphreys School of Musical Theatre student Sarah Klein meets Bryan Batt at Junior Theatre Festival 2013



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2013 MONTHLY HEAVY TRASH SCHEDULE
3rd Thursday of the Month

January	Tree Waste ONLY
February	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste ONLY
April	Junk Waste
May	Tree Waste ONLY
June	Junk Waste
July	Tree Waste ONLY
August	Junk Waste
September	Tree Waste ONLY
October	Junk Waste
November	Tree Waste ONLY
December	Junk Waste

Tree Waste includes clean wood waste such as tree limbs, branches and stumps (not furniture). Tree Waste is accepted any month, but is only recycled during scheduled Tree Waste months.

Junk Waste includes items such as furniture, appliances, and other

bulky material. Junk Waste will not be picked up except during designated Junk Waste months.

Materials should not be placed for Heavy Trash pickup any sooner than 6 pm on the Friday before the scheduled pick up date.

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Yard of the Month: 3204 N. Shepherd



By Janet Cones

This pretty cottage type garden is very welcoming no matter which season, with each season delighting passers-by with a new surprise. There are a variety of plants types including sculptural shrubbery, topiaries, and seasonal plants that provide a bright splash of color.



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MICKEY'S MINUTE

by Mickey Morales

Here we are once again in the midst of what we in Southwest Texas refer to as winter and as messy and uncomfortable as it may be, it's not all bad, because it is prime time for getting your full quota of greens. Our farmers will continue to have all your favorites: broccoli, cauliflower, kale, chard, various lettuces, cabbage and of course collard greens. We are still in good supply of free range eggs and chickens, local honey, pastured pork sausages and olive oil. And as always our artisan vendors will be bringing their jams, jellies, bread and Indian foods, along with handcrafted wood utensils, pottery and jewelry.

This time of year also brings us the bi-annual legislative session in Austin and there are quite a few bills that will make a huge difference in the lives of small Texas farmers and ranchers that need our support or opposition. Without going into ex-

haustive detail, I encourage you to go to the Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance website (farmandranchfreedom.org) to look over upcoming issues, such as ensuring that urban farms and community gardens can qualify for agricultural property valuations. Contact your District 15 Senator John Whitmire and District 148 Representative Jessica Farrar to show your support.

Come see us at 935 Wakefield, rain or shine, every Saturday from 9am till 1pm in the parking lot across from Petrol Station.

Try this simple recipe for **Greens with Garlic, Oil & Hot Pepper**

Ingredients

- Olive oil
- Garlic, thinly sliced
- Pinch of Crushed red pepper
- Optional: lemon juice, cider vinegar, wine vinegar, balsamic vinegar
- Salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste



Wash and cook a pound of greens (beet greens, collards, kale, mustard greens, spinach, Swiss chard) in lightly salted water just until wilted, 5 to 10 minutes. Drain; press with the back of a spoon to release excess moisture. Heat some olive oil and thinly sliced garlic in a skillet over low heat until the garlic begins to sizzle. Add a pinch of crushed red pepper and cook, stirring, until the garlic is tender and light golden, 1 to 2 minutes. Add greens and toss with the hot oil until heated through, 1 to 2 minutes. Season with a splash of lemon juice or vinegar (cider vinegar, wine vinegar or balsamic), and salt and pepper to taste.

<http://www.eatingwell.com>

If you have a recipe for fresh, seasonal produce that you would like to share, please send to gazette@gardenoaks.org.

 <p>Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic</p> <p>Monday - Friday: 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM By appointment only</p> <p>Saturday: 7:30 - 11:30 AM Walk-in's welcome</p> <p>2120 West 34th Street (Between T.C. Jester & Ella)</p> <p>(713) 682 - 6351</p> <p>www.oakforestvetclinic.com</p>	<p>Hallie Ray Moore, DVM Maggie Morris, DVM Susan Cardenas, DVM</p> <p>Wellness Exams & Vaccinations Convenient Drop-off Service New In-house Laboratory Pet Food & Treats Radiology Online Pharmacy Ultrasound Imaging Large Boarding Facilities 24/7 Medical Record Access Surgery & Dental Procedures</p> <p>Supporting our community since 1964</p>
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CRITTER CORNER

Casey and Dorothy Dan Farris

Are you ready for the smoochiest day of the year? How about that pucker-pooch of yours? February is National Pet Dental Health Month and we just can't stress enough how important dental health is for the pets. Did you know that oral disease is the most frequently diagnosed health problem for pets? Also, to heighten consumer awareness many veterinarians will offer discounts this month on dental services so now is the time to make that appointment. This month we talk about holistic pet food and look below for the results of the "Who's Your Daddy" name that breed contest.

Pet of the Month: Who's Your Daddy Piero?

In December we held the name that breed contest and the results are in from the DNA test and it was not easy guessing Piero's breeds. Piero is 15% Bull Mastiff; 15% Chow Chow; 25% American Staffordshire terrier; and the rest breaks down in order of dominance as Labrador retriever; Rottweiler; Bedlington terrier; Dachs-hund; and Siberian husky. For the full report, see our website at www.godogusa.com. The winning guesser is Stacey Sadowski.

Critters 101: What is Holistic Dog Food?

As pet owners become more informed as to contents of their dog's food, more owners are turning to holistic dog food. What is Holistic Dog Food? Holistic dog foods are foods that have been created with balance in mind. All ingredients in the food have been balanced to provide dogs with optimal nutrition. Ingredients are selected with their unique pur-

pose in mind whether it is to provide high levels of fatty acids or to include more digestible proteins. Since every individual dog has different nutritional needs, there is a significant degree of variation among types of holistic dog food blends. In contrast many lower quality dog food options focus on low cost production costs which result in lower quality ingredients.

Holistic foods generally are a better choice for most dogs. Just as with people, when poor quality food is consumed, overall nutrition is poor and general health suffers. Dogs are exactly the same way and when they are fed diets filled with poor quality ingredients and excessive fillers, the results will soon begin to show. However, some dogs have allergies or health conditions that can be better controlled with other feeding options.

There are a number of different kibble options out there for dog owners to choose from and things can soon become confusing. Not all holistic foods are grain free foods and not all grain free foods are holistic foods. Many people are under the assumption that all grains are bad for their dogs; this is not the case. Grains simply do not make up a significant portion of the wild canine's diet; this does not mean that they are not beneficial in limited quantities. The exception to this rule is dogs with grain allergies, in which case grain free foods are the best option. Many types of different grains are used in dog foods but grain free foods are, for the most part, foods that do not contain wheat or corn. Wheat and corn are the two most popular allergens for dogs with grain induced allergies. Other common grains include: oats, barley and rice.

While there are a great many varia-

tions in brand, ingredients and pricing among holistic dog foods, holistic foods are more expensive. Just like human food, you get what you pay for in most circumstances. Holistic foods are made up of higher quality, and more often than not, human grade ingredients which makes them more expensive.

Casey Farris is owner/operator of Bone Voyage Pet Sitting Services and Go Dog USA.

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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FURNACE REPLACEMENT: THE SOONER THE BETTER

by Mitch Weigand

Now that Valentine's Day is approaching, your furnace has pretty much done its job keeping you warm during the year's coldest months. But how efficiently was that job done, and what was the true cost? Should you consider replacing your furnace?

The two most common furnace repairs are a blown circuit board and burnt-up fan motor. At approximately \$800-\$1,000 each, both are expensive to fix. That's a lot of money, considering a typical brand-new furnace runs \$2,000-3,000 installed. More importantly, what if your aging furnace has cracks in its heat exchanger? These can leak carbon monoxide which can then spread throughout your home. As discussed in last month's column, carbon monoxide poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning in the United States.

Improved efficiency, comfort and savings

Including the furnace, all of the components in your home's heating and cooling system should have the highest possible energy efficiency ratings. The higher the rating, the more efficient the product and the lower your energy bills will be. I strongly recommend replacing your furnace if it's more than 10 years old.

In the last decade, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) industry has made amazing advances in technology. A modern furnace typically uses only half the gas to heat your home as a model built in 2003 plus does it much more efficiently, in about half the time. More importantly, the new furnace's blower motor uses only one-tenth the electricity as the one found in a decade-old furnace. During the summer, this blower motor is also used by your air conditioning system to distribute cool air throughout your

home. Its greater efficiency means greater savings throughout the year. Your new furnace will create comfortable heating throughout your home, improved humidity balance and reduced sound level while it operates. The cost savings will be impressive too.

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 his previous columns from the Garden Oaks Gazette can be found at www.airwisehouston.com.

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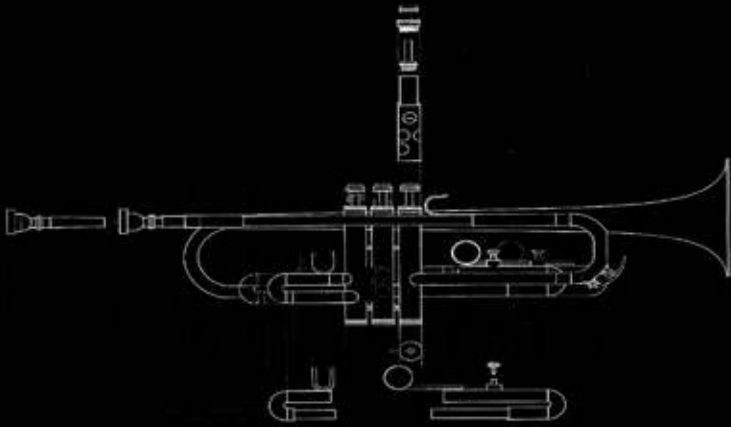
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Half Page 7 ½ W X 4 ½ H	\$110.00	\$550.00	\$1065.00
Full Page 7 ½ W x 9 ½ H	\$180.00	\$900.00	\$1745.00
Half Page Back Cover	\$150.00	\$750.00	
Full Page Back Cover	\$225.00	\$1125.00	
Inserts (full page only, single sided)			\$180.00
Inserts (double sided)			\$225.00

1. Placement of the ad is at the discretion of the editor.
2. Camera-ready artwork must be submitted by the 15th of each month for publication the following month and emailed to: gazette@gardenoaks.org
3. Artwork must be emailed in the following formats:
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Garden Oaks Civic Club
2013 Constable Patrol Contributor Application & Contact Information

(All information is held strictly confidential)

[] New Member or [] Renewal

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

Payment Options

- [] Enclosed find my payment for 2013 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

GARDEN OAKS FEBRUARY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
3	3 A-Go Go Meeting 859 Azalea, 7 PM	5 Civic Club Meeting GOES Elementary 7 PM	6	7	8	9 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
10	11	12 	13	14 Garden Club, 7 PM	15	16 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
17	18	19	20 GOMO Monthly Meeting GOES Elementary 7 PM	21	22	23 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield
24	25	26 	27	28	1	2 Farmers Market, 9AM-1 PM 985 Wakefield



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