

# GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

VOLUME 36

ISSUE 07

## COME JOIN THE FUN AT THE ANNUAL RED, WHITE AND BLUE JULY 4th BICYCLE PARADE



Start your Independence Day holiday off by heading down to the SPARK Park for the 5th Annual Garden Oaks 2013 Red, White, and Blue Parade. The event is scheduled for **Thursday, July 4, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** at Rick Englert SPARK Park on Sue Barnett, with pre-registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. If the thought of decorating your bicycle or wagon doesn't inspire

you, then bring a lawn chair down and enjoy the Parade, the refreshments and a chance to celebrate with your neighbors.

First, second and third place prizes will be awarded for:

- Strollers & Wagons
- Youth bicycles
- Adult bicycles
- Tricycles
- Floats

Refreshments will be served after the parade.

Volunteers are still needed to work the registration table, serve as judges, parade marshals and photographers. Contact Deanna Zugheri at [Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com](mailto:Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com) or 281.658.4514.

## 2014 GARDEN OAKS HOME AND GARDEN TOUR

By Brenda deAlba

Having any successful fundraiser like the 2014 Garden Oaks Home & Garden Tour requires organization and thought similar to piecing together a jigsaw puzzle where all of the puzzle pieces eventually come together to create a beautiful product. The puzzle pieces for our 2014 tour comprise homes, gardens, committees led by chairs or co-chairs, numerous volunteers, florists, photographers, and generous sponsors. Since announcing next year's tour in the June Gazette, I'm ecstatic with the talented neighbors, listed below, who have already stepped forward to chair or co-chair a number of the committees. **Cont. on Pg 7.**

## JULY 2013

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Civic Club Meeting

**July 2, 7 p.m. Civic Club Meeting**  
Garden Oaks Elementary School  
Guest Speaker-Drainage

#### August 6, 7 p.m. Civic Club Meeting

Garden Oaks Elementary School

#### Sept. 3, 7 p.m. Civic Club Meeting

Garden Oaks Elementary School  
Guest Speaker: Mayor Annise Parker

#### Red, White and Blue July 4th Bicycle Parade

Thursday, July 4,  
SPARK Park., 9:00 a.m.  
Registration begins at 8:30a.m

### VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Beautification Chair

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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.

4214 Alba  
 927 Lamonte  
 1027 Althea  
 930 West 43RD  
 1038 West 41ST  
 1070 Gardenia  
 702 West 43RD  
 713 West 38TH  
 1034 Althea  
 Special welcome to 959 Lamonte

### Birthdays

Caroline McLean- 1st  
 Matthew Knauth- 2nd  
 Claire Elizabeth Balance – 2nd  
 Alexander Zugheri –2nd

Kaplan Martinez-12th  
 Sterling & Sean Walden- 16th  
 Jason Cunningham - 27th  
 Sally McDaniel – 27th

### Happy Anniversary

Sarah and Corey Heath – 7th (26 years)

**Congratulations** to all the neighborhood graduates. St. Agnes Academy cum laude graduate **Carly Stender** will be attending the University of Georgia in the fall. **Allison Padon** graduated from St. Agnes Academy, with honors, and is headed off to Clemson University to major in Business. **Caroline Padon** graduated 8th grade from St. Anne Catholic School with honors and is headed off to St. Agnes Academy this fall. Also congrats to **Carmen Busceme and Desiree Guillory** who welcome Stella, a 3.8-lb Boston Terrier.

### Out and About

**Caroline McLean** enjoyed San Diego. Memorial Weekend was an adventure for **Trent and Megan Salch**, along with Miss K and Master G in Galveston. **Tina Sabuco and Shelley Arnold** enjoyed an Abundance retreat with friends on Memorial Day. **The Klein and Acosta clans** were seen at Must Be Heaven in Brenham. **Lucy McLean** and the Blue Marlin Swim team have been busy, and successful too. **Tina Rowe and Jim Dicola** enjoyed Aruba while celebrating Tina's birthday.

A Speedy Recovery to **John Goodman** who recently cracked a bone in his foot.

To highlight an event, celebration, or other tidbit, contact Terry Jeanes at [terry@terryjeanes.com](http://terry@terryjeanes.com).

## Garden Oaks Gazette

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

### No exceptions.

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

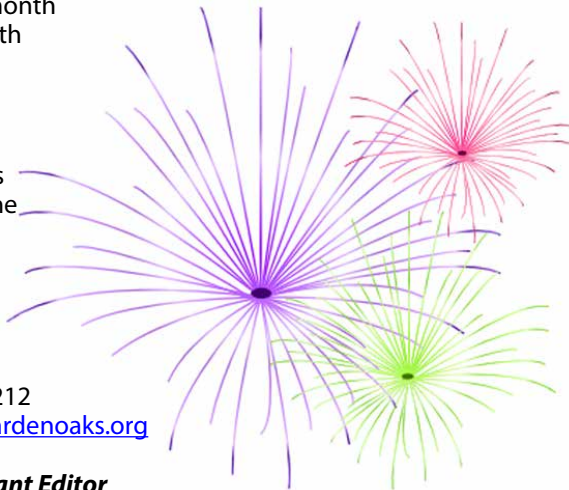
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**CITIZENS' PATROL PROGRAM**

*By Carl Waters Jr.*

The official **National Night Out** will be celebrated in Houston and Harris County on Tuesday, October 1, 2013. Start planning your block parties now and let me know so we can have HPD and or the Constable stop by for a visit.

**May Crimes Statistics (7)**

**Assault (1)**

3200 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Monday, May 6 at 9:20 p.m. (bank).

**Theft (5)**

200 block of W. 30th St. on Saturday, May 4 at noon (residence).  
 3400 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Saturday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. (restaurant).  
 700 block of Garden Oaks Blvd on Friday, May 24 @ 3:00 p.m. (business).  
 800 block of Azalea St. on Friday, May 31 at 4:00 a.m. (driveway).

2900 block of N. Shepherd Dr. on Friday, May 31 at 5:00 p.m. (parking lot).

**Auto Theft (1)**

700 block of North Loop West, Wednesday, May 8 at 10:25 a.m. (strip center).

So far this year 35 crimes have been recorded for the neighborhood on the Houston Police Department website; this is down six from last year.

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



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Terms expire October of year in parentheses.

**GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES**

*By Mark Klein, President and Heather Leverett, Secretary*

**Location:** Garden Oaks Elementary  
June 4, 2013

**Welcome:** President Mark Klein called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

A thank you to Brother's Pizzeria who once again showed their support of the neighborhood by donating pizzas to keep everyone attending the Civic Club meeting well fed.

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

**President's Announcements:**

**OurBlok Rewards Program:** OurBlok is a rewards program where up to 5% of the proceeds of participating retailers go to Garden Oaks Civic Club when the card is presented with a purchase. The cards should have been included in the *Gazette*. Please encourage every household to support the program. **Upcoming GOCC Speakers:** In July, we plan to have a speaker to discuss the roadside ditches and water circulation techniques. In September, Mayor Annise Parker will speak at the GOCC meeting. **Beautification Chair:** We need a GO resident willing to assume the responsibilities of the beautification chair! Please contact [president@gardenoaks.org](mailto:president@gardenoaks.org) to volunteer or recommend someone for the position. **Local Government Affairs:** President Klein attended a meeting with Councilwoman Cohen with regards to issues impacting our area. More information to come in future meetings. **Wine Walk:** The **Wine Walk** is in its 5th year. The cost is \$50 per person and limited to 200 tickets. Last year it raised \$14,000. It is

planned for Saturday, October 19 and tickets will go on sale September 1st.

**July 4th Bike Parade:** Please come out July 4 and support the neighborhood. **GOCC Office Nominations:**

A nominating committee will be named soon. Nominations will be presented in November to prepare for voting in December.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Phil Ramirez reported that the financials are status quo for this time of year. We are \$24,000 short of the Constable Program needs and will need to begin addressing this shortage soon.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Brenda de Alba drew a \$25 Lowe's gift card for a lucky neighbor at the meeting.

**GO Citizens Patrol:** Carl Waters reported seven crimes in May: One assault, five thefts, and one auto theft. The assault may have been near the Chase bank at 34th. The crimes are occurring at both day and night times. The neighborhood has six crimes less this year than at the same time last year. Please encourage your neighbors to join the voluntary patrol program. You only need to be eighteen years old and able to pass a background check, Report anything suspicious in the neighborhood to the Constables or call 911 if you see an emergency.

**Constable Program:** Terry Jeanes reported that the deputies have been fairly quiet. There was one alarm in Section One. It was not dispatched as the alarm was not permitted. If you hear an alarm, please contact the Constable as they will come regardless of permitting. Please also be vigilant about solicitors and panhandlers. If you see anyone following you home from the grocery or a store, heading to the fire station is an option as the firemen will come out and assist citizens.

**Beautification:** Please consider volunteering to be the beautification chair.

**Gazette:** President Klein thanked Lori Kennedy, Gazette Delivery Co-ordinator, and the Gazette delivery volunteers for handling the OurBlok Gazette distribution.

**GardenOaks.org Website:** Joe Muscara reported that the website has been updated to add the means to setup recurring payment for neighborhood donations. It is a less expensive alternative to the GOCC than bank drafting and allows neighbors to choose the frequency of the recurring charge.

**Garden Oaks Home Tour 2014:** Brenda de Alba noted that prior year Home Tours have raised over \$30,000. The Home Tour takes over 200 volunteers to be successful. Some of the leadership positions have been filled. Home Tour home nominations are in progress. The goal is to have selections completed by mid-August.

**Garden Oaks Elementary School:** Principal Pollock announced that the school is the first Envoy-certified Montessori school in the world. Envoy is a system of non-verbal communication that is used in the classrooms. It has taken over two years to prepare for the accreditation, and the school had to pass with a score of over 90%. Summer camps will be ongoing at the school. Shred day is September 21st so please bring anything to the school you need shredded. Magnet status is expected to be announced by July 1. President Klein adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.



**CIVIC CLUB PRESENTATION, July 2, 2103 - Looking Back on Low-tech Drainage and Circulation Techniques of the Future**

As most Gazette readers already know, Garden Oaks is an almost purely residential subdivision of about 1,400 homes located just "outside the loop" north of downtown Houston. This then-suburban development was begun in the late 1930s, when N. Shepherd was a 2-lane highway spur, and the 610 "Defense Loop" was nothing more than a gleam in the Transportation Commission's eye.

Now, as it did then, Garden Oaks boasts narrow, two-lane asphalt streets laid out in graceful curves that intersect in a smattering of triangular, green open spaces. There are no curbs, roadside parking and sidewalks are off-pavement, and drainage is accommodated in shallow, grass-lined swales.

As it turns out, these design parameters are currently under consideration in Texas and nationwide as means to control local circulation speeds, prevent the spread of West Nile Virus and, perhaps most importantly, help minimize adverse drainage (i.e. flood) and water quality (i.e. pollutant) impacts to downstream waterways.

Cathy Wahren, a local resident and land development engineer, will present "Looking Back on Low-tech Drainage and Circulation Techniques of the Future" to the Civic Club at the July 2 meeting. She will provide information regarding these old-fashioned, yet state-of-the-art design features and associated challenges, using Garden Oaks as a living, breathing, on-the-ground example.

Don't miss this interesting look at something many take for granted. Come out to the next Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting to hear something new and share your thoughts. Join us 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 2, at the Garden Oaks Elementary School, 901 Sue Barnett.

**SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES!**

This month's Gazette is filled with the activities and events that distinguish a subdivision from a real community. As a bonus, many of the events help to generate funding required to maintain the quality of life to which we in Garden Oaks have become accustomed. These events don't just happen. Behind each activity is one or more of your neighbors who has taken an active role in enhancing our community and making it one of the most desirable places to live in Houston.

So take a look at the opportunities to give back to the community, get to know your neighbors, and have some fun. And by all means, if you have yet to send in your Civic Club Membership or Constable dues, please don't hesitate.

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**CONSTABLE PROGRAM -  
Who is on your Alarm Company's  
Notification List?**

By Terry Jeanes

A recent break-in in Section One revealed a neighbor whose monitored alarm was not set up with the Constable Dispatch for notification. HPD was called but would not dispatch due to no permit. The neighbor returned home within 10 minutes of the call from the monitoring company to found her back door kicked in. The Constable was called and was there within minutes. Can you imagine what would have happened if Constable Dispatch had been contacted on the first round? Check with your alarm company and **put Precinct One Constable Dispatch on the list.**

PRECINCT ONE  
CONSTABLE DISPATCH  
713 755 7628

**Reminder:** Please notify constable's office of any solicitors in the neighborhood. Recent solicitor checks have resulted in findings of parties with outstanding warrants. Added ways to stay updated on posts in the area-some security related some not.

**-Garden Oaks page -** <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/35914307130/?fref=ts>

**-Oak Forest page -** <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/201375163658/?fref=ts>

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

**Vacation Watch Form:** <http://www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/VacationWatch.pdf>

For all neighbors to receive more timely notices on crime alerts please provide your name, email, and street address to [secretary@gardenoaks.org](mailto:secretary@gardenoaks.org).



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**2014 HOME TOUR...Cont. from Pg 1.**

Selection Committee Chair: Terry Jeanes  
 Underwriting/Sponsorships Co-Chairs: Shana Tatum & Jane Ann Roberts  
 Marketing/Publicity/Social Media Chair: Mark Klein  
 Graphics/Printing Chair: Jessica Jarvis  
 Preview Party Co-Chairs: Gretchen Dreher & Tina Rowe  
 Silent/Live Auction Co-Chairs: Missy Alwais & Jennifer Osowski  
 Transportation Chair: Mark Saranie  
 Set-Up Chair: Ed de Alba  
 Finance Chair: Dian Austin  
 Pre-sale Tickets/Poster Distribution Chair: Imelda Johnson  
 Concessions Chair: Jerry Butler  
 Docent Scripts Chair: Debbie Padon

**What/who are we missing?** We are missing chairs for the Volunteers/Staffing, Command Center, and Florist committees. Descriptions of these three committees are below:

**Command Center Chair:** Procures a location to serve as the tour hub (in the past has been the Garden Oaks Shopping Center on N. Shepherd), sells tickets day of the tour in addition to redeeming pre-sale tickets, sells t-shirts, answers questions of tour visitors.

**Florist Chair:** Procures florists for the tour homes and acts as the liaison between the home owner and florist.

**Volunteer/Staffing Chair:** Procures volunteers to staff open positions for the committees and tour locations. We have a great database with volunteer names and contact information from 2012 to get you started. Owners of the selected tour homes and gardens will be asked to help find volunteers for their location through their family and friends with any open volunteer slots being filled

through this committee.

Volunteers are a crucial element... they serve as neighborhood ambassadors for the tour. Tour locations need ticket takers, greeters, and docents. We need volunteers to distribute and blanket local businesses with publicity posters. We need creative volunteers to help set up and staff the preview party and procure silent auction items. We need volunteers to help secure tour sponsors. We need volunteers to ride the buses and make sure tour attendees get VIP treatment. We need strong-backed volunteers to help install the tour signs several weeks prior to the tour and then deliver tables, chairs, pop-up tents, etc. to the tour locations. **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!**

It isn't too early to sign up as a volunteer...just send your name, contact information, and preferred volunteer role in an email to [Volunteers@gardenoaks.org](mailto:Volunteers@gardenoaks.org).

**Selection Committee Update:** Terry Jeanes has assembled her selection committee (Debbie Padon, Holly Veech, and Blake Woods) and has already received some home and garden tour nominations. If you would like to nominate a home or garden, yours or a neighbor's, please forward a note to [HTSelections@gardenoaks.org](mailto:HTSelections@gardenoaks.org) and it will be sent directly to Terry. Remember...our goal is to announce the tour locations in the September Gazette which means the decisions have to be made by mid-August. Please don't delay providing your nominations!!!

If you have any questions regarding this event, please don't hesitate to email me through [Hometour@gardenoaks.org](mailto:Hometour@gardenoaks.org).

**Terry Jeanes**  
 Your Neighbor & Area Specialist



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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 at the GOMO Office  
 (N, Shepherd @ GO Blvd) at 7 pm.  
 Meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. Additional information about the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization is online at [GardenOaks.org](http://GardenOaks.org). Property owners in Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 are all members of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization.

**REDS, WHITES... AND THE BLUES  
Annual Constable Fundraiser set  
for Sat. October 19, 4-6 pm.**

*By Dian Austin*

Planning for our 5th Annual Garden Oaks Wine Walk is underway. For those of you who may be new to the neighborhood, the Wine Walk is a wine tasting fundraiser for our constable program that we hold in the fall right here in our own great neighborhood. Last year, with the help of our cash sponsors, table hosts, and all attendees, we generated in excess of \$14,000 for our underfunded constable program.

Our theme this year is "Reds, Whites...and the Blues", featuring wines from the US and a tribute to music from the Blues genre. Tickets to the 2 hour (adults only) event will be \$50 each, and will go on sale September 1st. Ticket forms will be available in the September Gazette, at <http://www.gardenoaks.org> and on the Garden Oaks Facebook page. We will only sell 200 tickets as we have in previous years, and we always sell out!

The event is held annually in the fabulously landscaped yard of Ed and Brenda de Alba. Complete with flagstone pathways, lush landscaping, and a huge koi pond, it's the perfect setting to sip wines, taste good foods, mingle with your neighbors, listen to music, and support our constable program.

We will have 13 different table hosts, each pouring a different wine for you to taste. Most of the slots have already been filled with folks who have participated in previous years, but as we go to print, a couple of table host opportunities may still be available. If you want to furnish at least a case of wine and host a table, please

contact Shelley Rogers at [srogers@sheehyware.com](mailto:srogers@sheehyware.com).

Currently, we are fortunate to already have some committed cash sponsors, all of whom have also sponsored at least last year, and most have sponsored for several years:

**Gold Sponsor (\$500)**

Terry Jeanes – ReMax/Metro, Section 4 neighbor, and General Shepherd of the Constable Program

**Silver Sponsors (\$250)**

Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic  
Chris Schmidt – SCM Construction Services, and Section 2 neighbor  
Pat Walker – Keller Williams – Metropolitan  
Linda Sparks – Section 4 neighbor  
Georgia Lister & Hal Bowman – Section 3 neighbors

**Bronze Sponsors (\$125)**

Dr. Mathew Naftis DDS  
Houston Civic Symphony

If you'd like to be a cash sponsor, please contact Dian at [dka2007@comcast.net](mailto:dka2007@comcast.net) or call her at 713-691-6505. The sponsor benefits for each level are:

**Gold sponsor**

\$500 cash contribution  
INDIVIDUAL sign on day of event  
Recognition in Gazette (delivered to 1400+ homes), on the neighborhood Garden Oaks yahoo group, on the GO Facebook page, and on the Tasting Notes distributed to the 250 Wine Walk attendees  
4 tickets to the Wine Walk (ticket value \$200)

**Silver sponsor**

\$250 cash contribution  
Shared signage with other silver sponsors on day of event  
Same PR as above with Gazette, etc.

2 tickets to the Wine Walk (ticket value \$100)


**Bronze sponsor**

\$125 cash contribution  
Shared signage with other bronze sponsors on day of event  
Same PR as above with Gazette, etc.  
One ticket to the Wine Walk (ticket value \$50)

We hope to see you at this super fun event!


**GARDEN OAKS NEWS**

Timely information about information and events can be found on the Garden Oaks Yahoo group which can be found at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Houston\\_GO](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Houston_GO). Also join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/)



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**TEXTING AND DRIVING; IT CAN WAIT!**

By Annise Parker

The days between Memorial Day and Labor Day are the 100 deadliest days for teen drivers. 30 percent of teen driver deaths occur during this time-frame. Sadly, many of these deaths will occur because they and others are texting while driving.

The city of Houston is coordinating an anti-texting and driving public awareness campaign called *It Can Wait, Houston*. Our local initiative is an extension of AT&T's successful It Can Wait nationwide effort.

I've enlisted the support of a broad-based task force consisting of local law enforcement, government, educational, corporate, medical, professional and faith-based organizations. The task force members have agreed to not only help get the word

out, but also consider developing company or institutional policies that prohibit texting while driving, if they don't already have them.

Several entities, including the Houston Texans, Dynamo, Rockets, and Comcast have agreed to broadcast public service announcements in support of this effort. Local rapper Bun B is helping with this part of the effort by appearing with me in the PSA.

Recent Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) data shows that 13 percent of traffic fatalities in 2011 were related to texting while driving. Just as troubling, new research from AT&T indicates that 43 percent of commuters admit to a "habit" of texting while driving, even though they are aware of the risks. Previous studies have confirmed that those who text while driving are 23 times more likely to be in a crash.

Our goal should be the same type of societal change that we saw from the public awareness campaigns that taught us the safety benefits of seat belts and the dangers of drinking and driving.

For your own sake and for the safety of your neighbors, It Can Wait. Take the pledge to stop texting while driving at [www.itcanwait.com](http://www.itcanwait.com).

**Freedom Over Texas**

July 4th Celebration,  
Eleanor Tinsley Park, 4pm – 10pm.

Sheryl Crow and Martina McBride will be the headlining the entertainment which also includes a flight museum, beer garden and fitness challenge. Tickets are \$8 for adults and children 5 and older. Guests under 5 are free.

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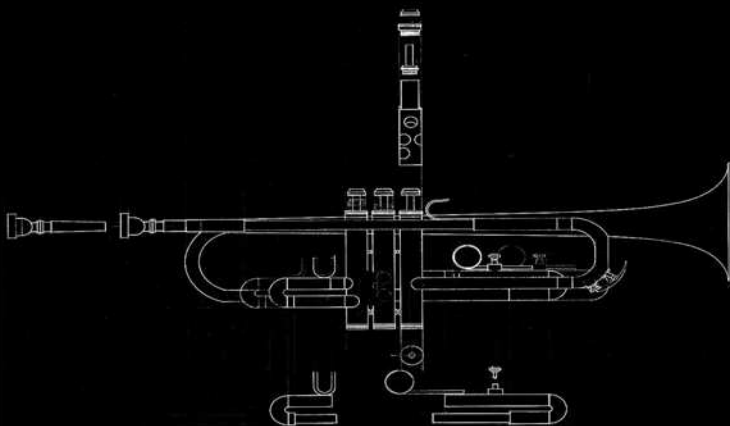
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**MIDDLE SCHOOL AT GARDEN OAKS?**

By Lindsey Pollock

Yes, it is true, we are expanding our Montessori program through 7th grade in the 2013-14 school year with plans to continue to expand the school through 8th grade by 2014-15. Garden Oaks Elementary has been structured for many years to end the Montessori program in 6th grade. Classes in Montessori are multi-age to support the three-year cycle of community building and leadership as children stay with their classroom guide (teacher) for three years. The Montessori structure is Children's House (PK3 – Kindergarten); Lower Elementary (First – Third Grade); and Upper Elementary (Fourth – Sixth Grade).

Historically, students in the Upper Elementary classrooms often left Garden Oaks after 5th grade to begin traditional 6th – 8th grade programs. While parents and students reported success in the transition to traditional programs, the Montessori cycle of education was interrupted and the full benefit of a three-year cycle learning community was only minimally realized. With the addition of 7th grade at Garden Oaks, we anticipate that students who remain in the Montessori program will achieve academic gains, leadership experiences and an expanded sense of community as they continue their education at Garden Oaks. Not only does Montessori philosophy support this PK – 8th grade configuration as beneficial to children, a growing body of educational research also supports this strategy.

The Southwest Education Development Laboratory (SEDL) located in Austin, TX has amassed a body of research on the benefits of K – 8

schools. While researchers acknowledged that middle schools are able to focus solely on the developmental needs of adolescents, K-8 schools are able to build a sense of continuity and community especially for students who stay at the campus for the majority of their school experience. Additional benefits cited for students in K – 8 schools included increased sense of safety and significantly fewer discipline problems. Schools that reported gains in these areas also reported that they saw significant increases in academic outcomes, too. Of course there are challenges including sports and extracurricular options such as band or orchestra that are not feasible when a small group of middle school students exist on a campus. In HISD, however, students enrolled at magnet middle schools may participate in sports at their “zoned” middle school.

What does this mean for Garden Oaks? First, our name is changing! No longer considered an elementary, we are now Garden Oaks Montessori. We are nearing the end of our transition to an all-campus Montessori magnet school with only two traditional classrooms remaining for the 2013-14 school year. During the upcoming year, all campus faculty will complete their Montessori certification and our environmental sciences strand is continuing to be developed. Our school enrollment is nearing 700 children and our student attrition rates are at an all-time low. Children and families who come to Garden Oaks stay at Garden Oaks and soon through the 8th grade!



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Anderson-Wood	George	Derrick	Al & Sharon	Hazel	Tom & Carol
Andrews	Robert & Gisele	Diaz	Francisco & Barbara	Hein/Gieptner	Evelyn/Jackie
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McKemie	John & Lynn	Schoenfield	Kit
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McLean	Sean & Caroline	Seghers	Victor & Deborah
Mehrkam	Tom & Trish	Serper/Seferian	Lauren/Peter
Meyer	Russ & Crista	Seyffert	Ken & Sandra
Meyer	Bruce & Kathleen	Shaughnessy	Bill & Amy
Mireles	Andrew & Jaime	Shepperd	Glenn/Michael
Montgomery	William	Singer	Paul & Vicki
Montgomery/Gurski	Pat/Mike	Sledge	Ron
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Morris	Barry & Susan	Smith	Carol & Sandy
Mueller/Mayers	Juergen/Ivan	Smith	Iona Nelle
Mullen	Barb & Greg	Smith	Ralph & Barbara
Munden/Holcomb	Glenn/Michael	Smith	Scott
Nasir	Nazih & Kathleen	Smith	Peggy
Neathery	Vance	Smith/Evans	Scott/Chuck
Nieto	Tina	Spinks	Lynda
Nondorf	Marlene	Spychalski/Ehlert	Annette/Dwayne
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O'Leary/Appling	Brian/George	Standard	Margaret
Oriot	Bertrand & Gisele	Starustka	Charles & Margie
Oriot	Bertrand & Gisele	Starustka	Charles & Margie
Osowski	Jimmy	Stein	Betsy
Parham	Marte	Stender	Caroline
Patterson	Larry & Kirsten	Stevenson	Chris
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Penfold	Ian & Sandra	Synnott	Ola Mae
Pennington/Hoover	Patricia/Guy	Tapscott	Louis & Mei
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Perez	Joe & Alice	Taylor	Michael & Kerry
Pfeiffer-Traum	Deborah & Alan	Taylor	James & Lou Ann
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**PREPARE NOW FOR HURRICANE SEASON**

Source: <http://www.hcoem.org/Documents/HurricanePreparednessChecklist.pdf>

**PHOTO OF THE MONTH**

Cathy Wahren backpacking over Chilkoot Pass from Alaska into Canada in the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park.

**Before the Storm****General Preparedness through the Season**

- Keep your vehicle gas tank above ½ full.
- Test run generators monthly with a load to insure proper working order.
- Consider the purchase of flood insurance, even if outside of a floodplain.
- Have cash on hand in small denominations.
- Maintain portable battery powered AM radio.
- Contact 2-1-1 to register if you need transportation assistance to evacuate.

**Home Preparedness**

- Board up your windows or close storm shutters.
- Trim the trees and shrubs around your home.
- Clear loose and clogged downspouts and gutters.
- Perform an inventory of home contents (electronics, jewelry, appliances, clothing, etc.) and store in safe place.
- Take detailed photos(s)/videos(s) of home property and contents (internal and external) and store in safe place.
- Secure or remove all items outside your home (grill, hanging plants, potted plants, etc.).
- Tie down small or young trees to prevent uprooting.
- Store all important documents (insurance papers, etc) in a waterproof container and in a secure location.
- Prepare your evacuation kit using the pertinent items in the attached *Emergency Essentials Kit* checklist.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water for sanitary purposes (cleaning, flushing toilets, etc.)

**If you Plan to Evacuate**

- Are you located in an evacuation area in the evacuation map?
- Where are you evacuating to?
- Who is your contact at your destination?
- What is their contact information?
- What is your backup evacuation location?
- Take a copy of all important documents and store in a waterproof container and in a secure location.
- Top off your vehicle gas tank before hitting the road.

**If you Plan to Stay**

- Listen to the radio (AM 740 KTRH) or TV for information.

- If you have gas items you need to operate after the storm (generator, chainsaw, etc); fill gas storage container(s).
- Prepare your hurricane kit using the *Emergency Essentials Kit* checklist on the web site listed above.

**During the Storm**

- Listen to the radio (AM 740 KTRH) or TV for information.
- Turn the refrigerator and freezer to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.
- Avoid using the phone except for emergencies.
- Stay indoors and away from windows and glass doors.
- Close all interior doors.
- Keep curtains and blinds closed.
- Take refuge in a small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest level of your home.

**After the Storm****If you are Returning from Evacuation**

- Return only after the all clear is given for your area.
- Do not venture on to roads until you have been advised they are passable and safe.
- Carefully inspect your home and perform an exterior assessment for safety issues.
- Check for downed power lines and avoid if identified.
- If any safety issues are present, do not enter your home (gas smell, flood waters, fire damage, etc.).
- If any safety issues are present, have your home inspected by a qualified building inspector or engineer.



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**GARDEN OAKS KIDS**

By Lisa Rentschler

GO Kids has age-based playgroups, a Moms' Night Out, new parent dinner drops, a book club, a babysitting co-op, potlucks, and many other scheduled activities for kids from newborns to school-aged--- all Garden Oaks families are welcome.

**To Join GO Kids**

1) Go to: <http://www.gardenoakskids.com/>

2) Select "email us for an invitation"

3) Include some information about yourself... your full name, information about your family, address and GO section.

Please ensure that you complete all your information in BigTent (physical address and email) when you have been granted membership.

**GO Kids Sponsorship**

We have a friendly neighborhood, and want to provide additional opportunities for our mothers to meet each other and our children to grow up in a close community. To help us bring more events and activities to our neighborhood this year, please consider becoming a sponsor of the GO Kids group.

**Kiddo \$500** – Big Tent and GO Kids Advertising, Sponsor Sign at Events, Table at Events to talk with families, and Sponsor included in GO Kids Event announcement

**Toddler \$250** – Sponsor Sign at Events, Table at Events to talk with families, and Sponsor included in GO Kids Event announcement

**Infant \$100** - Sponsor Sign at Events

**2013 Events planned:**

- Movie Nights at the Park
- Splash Days
- Back to School Picnic
- Neighborhood Fun Run
- Christmas Caroling

If you would like more information about how to be a sponsor, please contact Marcia Rasmussen ([marcia2ras@gmail.com](mailto:marcia2ras@gmail.com)).

**GO Kids Activities**

Members check out our calendar of events at [www.bigtent.com](http://www.bigtent.com).

June 15<sup>th</sup> was a wonderful night for our 1<sup>st</sup> Movie Night at the Park. We had a great turn out and look forward to our next Movie Night at the Park later this year. A very special thank you to Stella Stevens and her family for their time to coordinate this event.

**July Events****Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bike Parade**

Be on the lookout for the **local lemonade stands** as we welcome the hot Houston summer.

Our **GO Babies and GO Buddies** have been very active this month; you can catch them at parks in the area and other happenings around town.

We have a **Moms' Night Out** at least once a month. The last two MNOs have been well attended and we are excited to see familiar faces as well as all the new mommas that are joining the group. This is a great way to have a little get-a-way from it all. We hope to see you out at this next MNO.

**August Events**

GO Kids **Back-To-School Beach Bash. August 3rd, 10am-1pm @ SPARK Park.**

Please bring an appetizer or side dish to add to our potluck beach lunch! Brisket, sausage, and beverages will be provided.

We will also be accepting school supply donations for GOES.

Contact our coordinators for specific details about upcoming events:

**GO Babies** (birth to 2) – Kori Long ([koricavanaugh@gmail.com](mailto:koricavanaugh@gmail.com))

**GO Buddies** (2 to 5) – Stella Stevens ([sas19@live.com](mailto:sas19@live.com))

**MNO** – Deborah Seghers ([debtrevino@yahoo.com](mailto:debtrevino@yahoo.com)) & Nicole Fowler ([nefowler@me.com](mailto:nefowler@me.com))

We are always looking for volunteers to help setup/assist during event/ take down at events! A list of published upcoming events can be found at [www.bigtent.com](http://www.bigtent.com)

**Website / Communication** – [www.gardenoakskids.com](http://www.gardenoakskids.com)

Our website continues to grow: now offering a login portal to BigTent, information on contributing to our annual bouncy house fund, and purchasing your Garden Oaks Cookbook, which benefits our Constable Program.

**GO Kids 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. Please consider volunteering for this program.

Pay it Forward... it is a great way to say **Thank you** if you have benefited from this program in the past.

Contact our Dinner Drop coordinator Angelica Sullivan if you have any questions on how to sign up/volunteer for the program ([angelicapuerto@hotmail.com](mailto:angelicapuerto@hotmail.com))

*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.*





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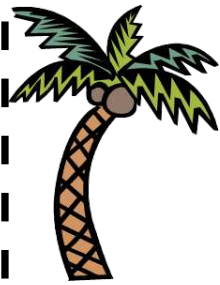
Mary Lynn Porter

**Yard of the Month: 1462 Sue Barnett**

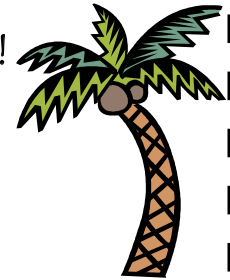


The July Yard of the Month, 1462 Sue Barnett, offers an explosive display of agapanthus blooms, complemented by a backdrop of deep purple loropetalum foliage. The front bed, lined with variegated and standard loriope, frames the landscape with structure and color.

**GO Kids Back-To-School Beach Bash**



Come play with your friends before summer ends!



Join GO Kids for a back-to-school beach bash  
 August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10am-1pm at GOES Spark Park!

All GO Kids families are welcome!

**Amy's Ice Cream · Bouncy House · Crafts · Games · Fun**

Please bring an appetizer or side dish to add to our potluck beach lunch!  
 Brisket, sausage, and beverages will be provided.

We will also be accepting school supply donations for GOES.

Thank you to our generous GO Kids Sponsors:



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**JEANES**

**CRITTER CORNER**

By Molly Taylor

Pet of the Month: Wyatt Earp



**Wyatt Earp** is a 7 year old American Eskimo Dog. His parents describe him as “fiercely protective” of the house, which is what this breed was actually bred to do—protect. Wyatt can stand on his back two legs and clap his paws which his parents call his “running man move”. It is so adorable to witness. His other claim to fame is that he manages to stay “white”. He only gets bathed 3-4 times a year, but always looks like he just had a day at the spa. Another interesting fact about this breed is

they were called German Spitz, but due to anti-German prejudice during the First World War, they were re-named “American Eskimo Dog”.

**Critters 101: Is my dog hot?**

It’s getting hot out there, so take off all your fur. I am getting so hot, I wanna take my fur off. That is not exactly how the song goes, but that is what many customers think their dog is saying to them as they lay there panting. Actually, the dog will lay there and pant with their fur off as well. That is your dog cooling themselves. Something to know: dogs use their fur to regulate their body temperature. So the big question: Is it bad to shave my dog? Yes and no are the answers. If your dog spends a lot of time outdoors having to regulate his own body temperature, then do not shave your dog. If your dog is mainly indoors and you are having an issue with excessive shedding, it might be something enjoyable for you. Whether your dog is mainly indoors or outdoors, shaved or not shaved, you need to pay attention to overheating. Many smashed faced breeds, such as English Bulldogs, cannot regulate their body temperature and can get over heated in less than ten minutes.

Signs of Heat Exhaustion in Dogs:

- Tongue very expanded and Red gums
- Disoriented
- Vomiting

**What to Do:**

- Get them out of the heat
- Run cool, not cold, water over your dog for about 10 minutes
- You can pour rubbing alcohol on their pads as well
- If the dog is not back to normal quickly, go straight to your veterinarian

**HEAT & HUMIDITY KILLS DOGS.**

If you think your dog should be the GO pet of the month, please drop us a line and tell us why we should feature your baby. Email [gazette@mutthouse.com](mailto:gazette@mutthouse.com) along with a picture.

**To Do!**

Reliant Dog Show is July 17-21st. [www.reliantdogshows.com](http://www.reliantdogshows.com)

Molly Taylor operates Molly’s Mutt House and co-owns Mutt House Relief Effort pet sitting. Please forward your questions and pet news to [gazette@mutthouse.com](mailto:gazette@mutthouse.com).

**GARDEN OAKS  
OUTREACH**

A color version of the Gazette is published each month on the Garden Oaks Website <http://www.gardenoaks.org/involvement/gazette.html>.

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

[relief@mutthouse.com](mailto:relief@mutthouse.com)

**Mutt House Relief Effort**

3410 N Shepherd • Houston, TX 77018 • 281-300-6712  
[www.MuttHouseReliefEffort.com](http://www.MuttHouseReliefEffort.com)

**CHANGING YOUR A/C'S AIR FILTER: A TOPIC THAT NEVER GOES AWAY**

by Mitch Weigand

Just like exercise and watching your cholesterol, it may not be the most exciting thing in the world to do but changing the A/C filter pays off BIG when you do it.

**Change air filter once a month**

Not only will this maintain your home's indoor air quality, it will lower your utility bill and lengthen the life of the system to its maximum.

**Choose the type carefully**

**Paper/fibrous material air filters:**

These are the filters you know best. Constructed of heavyweight paper with fiberglass interiors, they can be purchased virtually anywhere. The ones I recommend are the mid-range filters which cost around \$3 each. They have loose - not tight - pleating and are great at collecting a variety of airborne particles while still allowing

proper air flow.

In this category, there are some air filters on the market which have thick, very tightly pleated media and cost about \$17 each. Do not use these! Proper air flow is absolutely essential for your A/C system. These filters severely restrict air flow which can cause all sorts of problems including diminished efficiency, higher utility bills and shorten the life of your system's compressor.

**Electrostatic air filters:** These one-inch thick, washable air filters are commonly found in both free-standing room units or incorporated within a central air conditioning system. Yes, you can wash them but these filters will never become completely free of debris. Long-term usage and repeated unsuccessful cleanings result in a clogged filter which prevents needed air flow. Not recommended.

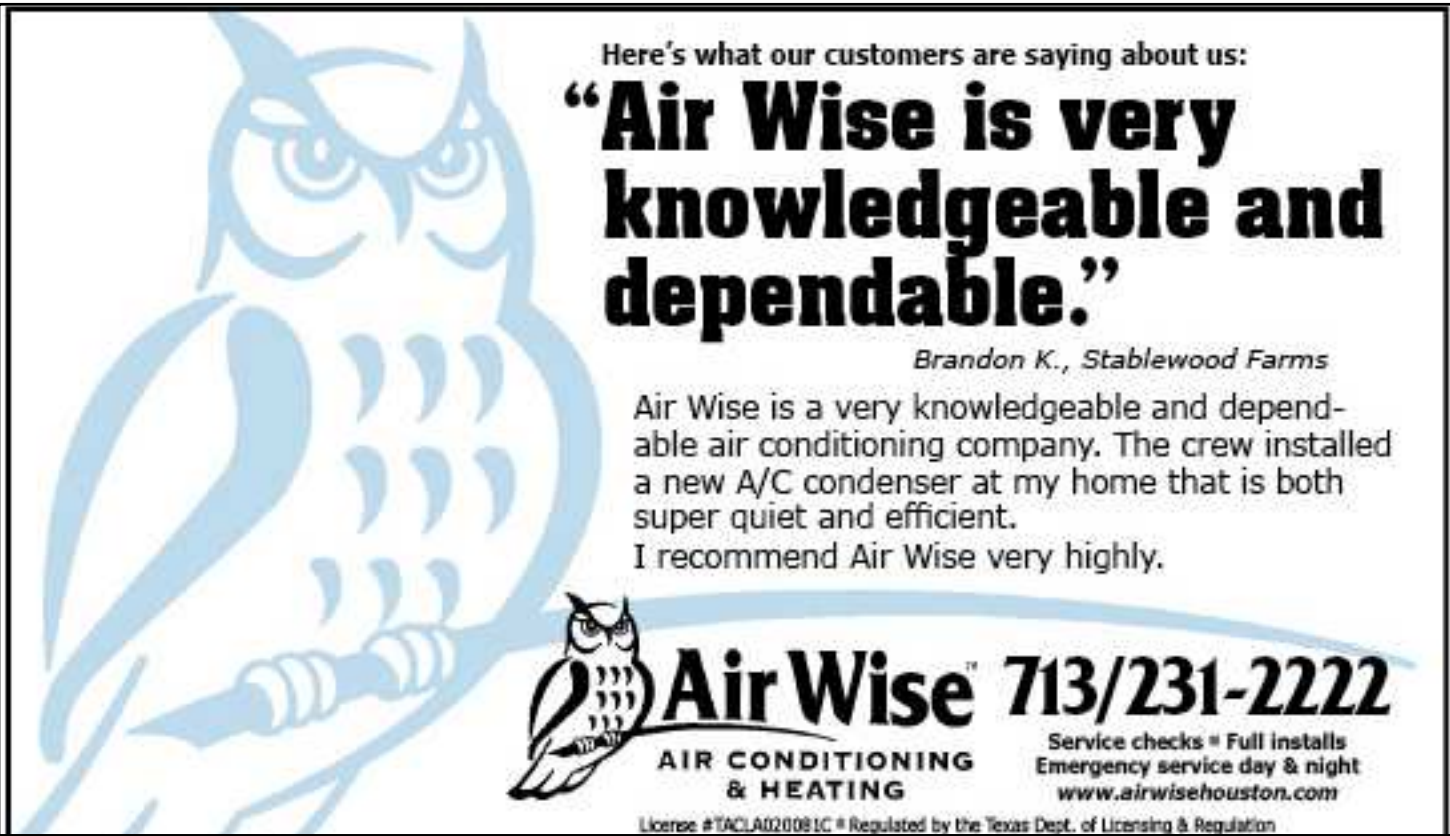
**Electronic air filters:** With electronic filtering, the air-borne contaminates

receive a physical charge and are removed by attraction to the opposite charge within a contained system. The collected dust and particles must still be removed. This can be done when your service technician performs spring and fall A/C check-ups. Electronic air filters are OK but not my favorite.

**My FAVORITE air filter ever!**

The **dust lock integration** or DLI filter, made locally by H&B Filters, allows air to flow freely through (absolutely essential to a properly functioning A/C system) plus traps up to 90% of airborne contaminants including dust, pollen, spores, pet hair and dander. DLI filters are about one-inch thick and custom cut to fit your A/C system. They are held in place with a wire grid which can be installed for only \$30. The replaceable filters are a very reasonable \$5 each and come in a box of 12.

Mitch is the owner of Air Wise and a member of the Garden Oaks Civic Club.



Here's what our customers are saying about us:

**“Air Wise is very knowledgeable and dependable.”**

*Brandon K., Stablewood Farms*

Air Wise is a very knowledgeable and dependable air conditioning company. The crew installed a new A/C condenser at my home that is both super quiet and efficient. I recommend Air Wise very highly.

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**MICKEY'S MINUTE-ON THE ROAD AGAIN**

By Mickey Morales

Once more we are moving our traveling show, but not far. We're going right next door to the Texas Auto Group parking lot @ **948 Wakefield Drive**. Randy of Wakefield Crow Bar is opening and will start serving breakfast. So we're sliding next door to give him room for his customers to park. Hope to see y'all there.

**Local Farmers' Market**

Held every Saturday

rain or shine

**948 Wakefield**

Sustainably grown produce, eggs, goat cheese, prepared indian dishes, jams and jellies.

**COMING HOME TO GARDEN OAKS**

By Allison Bell

As a former Garden Oaks resident, now living in Florence, Italy, I am amazed at how the neighborhood has transformed over the past 10 years since I left. I love coming home to visit my parents and driving around to see all of the beautiful new houses and eating out at the new restaurants in the area. But to me, the best new addition has to be the farmers' market on Saturday mornings. What a wonderful place to buy local products, meet other neighborhood residents, and eat a delicious breakfast taco.

The market was gracious enough to allow me to have a stand in June to sell my Italian cookbook, *Graziella's Tuscan Kitchen*. If you purchased a copy then you know that many of the ingredients for the recipes are avail-

able at the market. To inspire you to take advantage of the local produce, I would like to share a very simple and recipe for Grilled vegetables, Tuscan style, found in the book.

- 1 large eggplant
- 2 zucchini
- 1 red or yellow bell pepper
- 2 tbs chopped fresh parsley
- 1 clove minced garlic (optional)
- Extra virgin olive oil

1. Cut the eggplant and zucchini in 1/4 inch slices lengthwise
2. Cut pepper in half and take out inner seeds, then cut into fourths
3. Either on an outdoor grill or grill pan, cook the vegetables until soft, then sprinkle with parsley and garlic
4. Drizzle olive oil over the vegetables just before serving. They can be served warm or cold.



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**FRESH FROM THE FARMERS' MARKET-PURLANE**

*By Jeremy Goodwin*

One of the ironies of modern farming is the amount of money spent on herbicides trying to kill plants like purslane when they are often more nutritious and tasty than the crops being grown. Purslane is one of the few green vegetables to thrive in the Texas heat.

First thought to be cultivated in the Indus Valley civilization, purslane spread across the ancient world, and was often considered to be a super-food with healing properties. They may have been correct, as purslane has more omega-3 fatty acids than any other vegetable, plus vitamin A, B vitamins 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, vitamin C and the minerals calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphorus, potassium and zinc. It also has a high amount of mucilage, so it eases irritated membranes and upset



stomachs and the crushed leaves can be used as a poultice for minor burns. As the vitamin C in purslane is oxalate in form, people with a propensity for kidney stones may not want to consume it regularly.

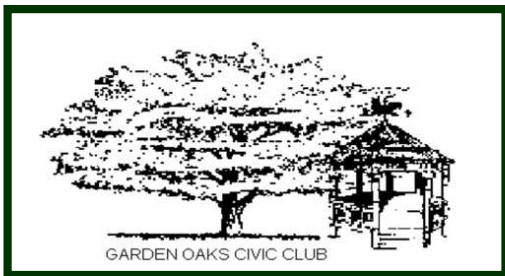
**Ingredients:**

- 8 oz Purslane leaves, well washed
- 1 Small onion, coarsely chopped
- 2 tablespoons Olive oil
- 2 fluid oz Sweet wine or vermouth
- Salt and pepper to taste

Sauté the onion for two minutes over very high heat. Throw in the purslane and toss well to coat it with oil. When it starts to wilt, add the sweet wine and cover reducing the heat to very low and cook for 5 more minutes. You can turn the heat off, and let it sit for a while before serving if you are busy with other things. Stores one-- day in fridge.

You can find more of Jeremy's recipes at [www.facebook.com/singlemanskitchen](http://www.facebook.com/singlemanskitchen).

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



## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT

### GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB

January - December 2013

DUE DATE: January 1, 2013	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION: \$ _____
------------------------------	---------------------------------

Membership is open to all residents whether you own or rent. Please choose the level you feel most comfortable supporting. **While all memberships are voluntary, you must contribute a minimum of \$25 (or \$5 for Seniors 65 years+)** in order to be eligible to vote on civic club matters. Membership dues are for the calendar year.

Fill in Amount

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ CREPE MYRTLE: \$25.00 (\$5.00 for Seniors)  
 • Basic Household Membership

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ THE MAGNOLIA: \$50.00 (\$10.00 for Seniors)  
 • Intermediate Level – Household Membership

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ THE GOLDEN OAK: \$75.00 (\$15.00 for Seniors)  
 • Patron Level – Household Membership

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP: \$50.00 (non-voting membership)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ CONTRIBUTION TO BEAUTIFICATION (area green spaces)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ CONTRIBUTION TO GARDEN CLUB

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Membership dues support all Garden Oaks Civic Club Activities: Beautification, Citizens' Patrol, the *Gazette*, Home Tour, Membership Committee, and Website.

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

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**Garden Oaks Civic Club**  
**2013 Constable Patrol Contributor Application & Contact Information**  
*(All information is held strictly confidential)*  
 New Member or  Renewal

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

**Payment Options**

- Enclosed find my payment for 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

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

# JULY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2 Civic Club Meeting-GOES Elementary 7 PM 	3	4 Independence Day Bicycle Parade SPARK Park 9 AM	5	6 Farmers Market, 948 Wakefield 9 AM-1 PM
7	8	9	10	11 Garden Club 7 PM	12	13 Farmers Market, 948 Wakefield 9 AM-1 PM
14	15	16 	17 GOMO Monthly Meeting -GOES Elementary, 7 PM	18 Heavy Trash-Tree Waste	19	20 Farmers Market, 948 Wakefield 9 AM-1 PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Farmers Market, 948 Wakefield 9 AM -1 PM
28	29	30 	31	1	2	3 Farmers Market, 948 Wakefield 9 AM-1 PM

## HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

Join us for our annual

## RED, WHITE AND BLUE BICYCLE PARADE

Thursday, July 4, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Rick Englert SPARK Park.  
Registration begins at 8:30a.m



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