



Garden Oaks Gazette

A publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club



APRIL 2015

Thank You,

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB, FOR MAKING OUR TRIP TO THE MONTESSORI MODEL UNITED NATIONS POSSIBLE!

(see page 10 to learn more)



UPCOMING EVENTS

April Civic Club Meeting

Tuesday, April 7
7:00 p.m.
Garden Oaks Montessori
901 Sue Barnett Drive

GO Garden Club Plant Swap

Thursday, April 9
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Gazebo Park
Sue Barnett Drive @ West 42nd



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Garden Oaks Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4

3:00 p.m.

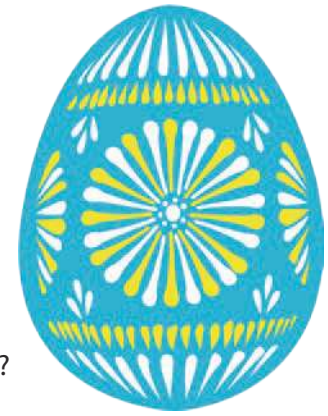
Rick Englert SPARK Park

901 Sue Barnett Drive

EASTER TRIVIA

(adapted from TriviaChamp.com)

1. Which country brought us the tradition of Easter eggs?
2. According to the song *Peter Cottontail*, what is the bunny bringing for Tommy?
3. Who sings the original version of *Peter Cottontail*?
4. When was the first Easter Egg Roll at the White House?
5. How much does the world's largest chocolate bunny weigh and where is it located?



- Answers:
1. Germany. Eggs have been decorated and given out on Easter for centuries.
 2. Jelly beans. He's bringing Mommy a new Easter bonnet.
 3. Gene Autry. The lyrics were written by Walter Rollins and the music was created by Steve Nelson.
 4. 1878. This will be the 137th year that the White House will hold its Easter festivities.
 5. 2,721 kilograms, which is about 3 tons of chocolate. This monster bunny resides in South Africa.

Garden Oaks Gazette

The Garden Oaks Gazette is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published monthly. The submission deadline is the 15th of each month for publication the following month, unless otherwise noted.

Publication herein of any article not directly related to the Garden Oaks Civic Club does not imply endorsement by the civic club and such article is solely an expression of its author's opinion.

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HEARD UNDER THE OAK TREE

By Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We hope to see you at a civic club meeting soon.

- 4307 Apollo 501 West 34th
- 906 Gardenia 714 West 41st
- 903 Lamonte 834 West 41st
- 316 West 30th 902 West 42nd
- 336 West 32nd

Happy Birthday

- Kiran B. 4/2
- Devin Hunter 4/6
- Kylie S. 4/7
- Emma R. 4/8
- Keith Kostelecky 4/9
- Reid S. 4/9
- Melissa Neiser 4/10
- Mansi Patel 4/12
- Daniel Sanborn 4/12
- Anna M. 4/15
- Lily B. 4/18
- Cody R. 4/20
- Leyton C. 4/21
- Heather McKeown 4/21
- Leslie Waters 4/21
- Diane Morish 4/22
- Robert De Veau 4/23
- Nicolas M. 4/26
- Jim Tucker 4/28
- Wade M. 4/30

Happy Anniversary

- Tina Sabuco & Shellye Arnold 4/6



Out and About

The **Therlots** did the St. Patty's Day Parade in New Orleans; **Jason** has marched in the parade for the past 15 years.

The **Dilleys** enjoyed Galveston over Spring Break.

The **Smotherses** enjoyed a fabulous trip to Vietnam and Thailand with former Garden Oaks residents **Bill** and **Susan McMillian**.

It was Spring Break camping for the **Noser** gang.

Ken and Mel Johnson and family enjoyed Breckenridge.

It was a grand time on Lake Conroe for the **Salch** family.

The **Gross** family visited several Texas landmarks including Washington on the Brazos State Park, Lago Vista, and Lake Travis.

Terry Jeanes

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The **Greenslates** enjoyed Epcot and Walt Disney World.

A great birthday celebration for **Angela Weltin** was held in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize.

Robert De Veau participated in the Mighty Mud Dash.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, contact Terry Jeanes at 713-812-9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com.

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GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

By Cindy Bartos, Secretary

March 3, 2015

Location: Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet School, 901 Sue Barnett

Welcome: Vice-President Chris Lindsay called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 2015 minutes as published in the *Gazette*. Copies of the minutes were available at the meeting. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jerry Butler reported on the Civic Club's current finances and had copies of the Profit and Loss statement and the Balance Sheet available at the meeting. Mr. Butler also explained that Chase Bank had automatically flipped the GOCC account into a high-end business account, resulting in charges for privileges not used by the GOCC. Mr. Butler subsequently moved the account to Wells Fargo Bank.

Speaker: Brenda de Alba introduced Robert "Skip" Richter, Harris County AgriLife Extension Agent, whose presentation topic was "Spring Gardening and the Landscape". Signed copies of Mr. Richter's book, *Texas Month-by-Month Gardening*, were also available for purchase.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Affairs Standing

Committee: Mark Klein described the need for financial support to send 22 Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet students to the Montessori

Model United Nations Midwestern Conference. He made a motion for the GOCC to donate \$600 toward funding the trip and event in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Brenda de Alba moved to increase the donation to \$4000, the amount still needed to fully fund the trip. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Klein also praised the community for their efforts in voicing concerns over the proposed high-speed rail routes but cautioned everyone to remain vigilant and aware until a final decision is made.

Constable Program: Program Chair Terry Jeanes reported on a change in the patrol schedules of the deputies participating in the Garden Oaks Constable Program. She also mentioned recent actions taken by some of the Constables and urged everyone to keep an eye out for and report any suspicious activity.

Membership: Dian Austin had no report. The winner of the raffle drawing was Sandy Altman, who won a signed copy of *Texas Month-by-Month Gardening* by guest speaker Robert "Skip" Richter.

Garden Oaks Citizens' Patrol: Committee Chair Carl Waters, Jr. reported on recent crimes in and around the neighborhood. He encouraged participation in the Citizens' Patrol Program to help keep the neighborhood safe.

Gazette: Editor Jenny Espeseth was not in attendance. President Briones announced the submission deadline for the *Gazette* is the 15th of each month.

Garden Oaks Website: Webmaster Joe Muscara had no report.

Beautification: Committee Chair Gary Harmon announced plans to prepare the gardens and parks for spring. The lawns have been fertilized, with the addition of mulch and flowers to follow.

Ad Hoc In-Line Storm Water Detention Project Committee:

Committee member Pam Parks had no report. A letter from Council Member Ellen Cohen to City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Director Dale Rudick addressing the results of the neighborhood survey on street design will appear in the March 2015 *Gazette*.

Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet

School: Principal Lindsey Pollock thanked everyone for the donation for the students' trip to the Montessori Model United Nations Midwestern Conference approved earlier in the meeting. March 13 is Field Day and Spring Break will be March 16-20.

OTHER BUSINESS

Another drawing was held for one of Mr. Richter's books, with Sandra George being the second lucky winner of the night.

Pizza was generously provided by Brother's Pizzeria located at 3820 North Shepherd in the Garden Oaks Shopping Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL
BRYAN DUNAWAY TO PRESENT AT
APRIL CIVIC CLUB MEETING**

Bryan Dunaway works as a GIS Technical Specialist with the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management. (The "GIS" acronym stands for "Geographic Information Systems".) As part of the Planning Section where he has worked for 7 years, he builds, maintains, and publishes a wide range of geographic mapping products.



In addition, he is a certified trainer within the Harris County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. The CERT program trains citizens in basic response skills such as light search and rescue, basic medical aid, and patient transport in order to increase emergency response capability in their area.

713.692.2020
3820 North Shepherd
Houston, Texas 77018
www.brotherspizzeriahouston.com

**Child Care Offered
at Civic Club Meetings**

The Civic Club is pleased to offer members an arrangement with the Foster YMCA to provide child care during civic club meetings. YMCA child care specialists, each trained in first aid and CPR, will care for your children from 6:30-8:30 p.m. (the usual duration of civic club meetings) in an area adjacent to the meeting location for a nominal charge of \$1.00 per child. Our hope is that this service will enable more residents to attend our monthly civic club meetings.

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GO GARDEN CLUB UPDATE

By Cathy Wahren, President, Garden Oaks Garden Club

The Garden Club plans to hold its annual **Plant Swap** from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, April 9** in the Gazebo Park at West 42nd and Sue Barnett. This fun event is open to all residents and friends who wish to participate. Each gardener brings at least two items to share, such as rootings, bulbs, or potted plants, and then draws a number and takes a few turns selecting from what others bring. This is a nice opportunity to offload "extras" and bring home a few new pass-alongs.

We are looking forward to a field trip on Saturday, May 16 to visit some of the recently completed amenities in Hermann Park.

We are also seeking garden-topic speakers for our meetings in June, July, and August so we can stay indoors during the heat of the summer. Please email any suggestions to me at gardenclub@gardenoaks.org.

Our March 9 work day at Friendship Park in Section 1 was a bit easier than expected, with only a manageable amount of weeding, pruning, and transplant efforts needed. We may still install a few new colorful additions. The little Meyer lemon is in full bloom, deliciously scented and full of bees. The huge live oak looks wonderful sporting its new haircut, and the azaleas are in bud and ready to put on a show over the next few weeks. Did someone say picnic?

GO
Garden
Club



The GO Garden Club is open to all residents and friends of Garden Oaks. Our regular meetings are held the second Thursday of each month from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Kroger's upstairs meeting space, except for months when we schedule weekend activities (typically organized for the following Saturday). Annual membership dues are \$25, but there is no obligation to join.

Please feel free to email me at gardenclub@gardenoaks.org with any inquiries or suggestions.

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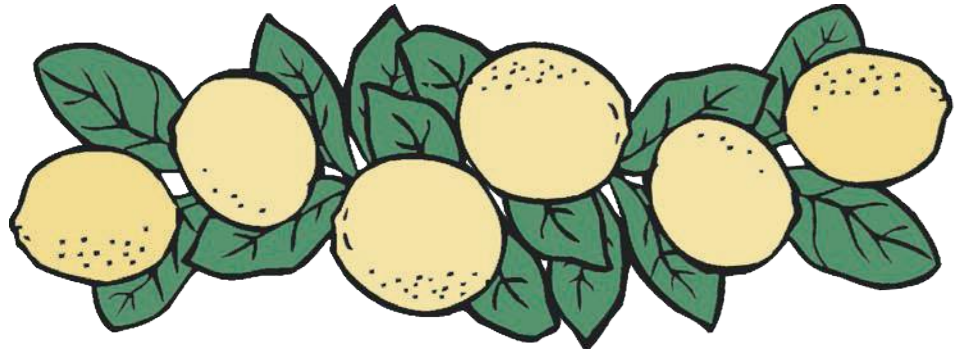
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The Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Harris County Master Gardeners are pleased to offer the Green Thumb Gardening Series of lectures. These lectures are **free of charge** to residents of Harris County. Space is limited, so call to register at **281-855-5600**.

Third Tuesdays

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Branch Memorial Library
930 Corbindale
Houston, Texas 77024

April 21	Basic Irrigation & Rainwater Harvesting
May 19	Basic Pest Control for Gardeners
June 16	Growing and Using Herbs
July 21	Fall Vegetable Gardening
August 18	Low Maintenance Landscaping
September 15	Indoor Gardening- Pest Control & Animal Safety
October 20	Propagation & Seed Saving

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BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE

By Gary Harmon, Beautification Committee Chair

Spring has sprung. Sheila Briones and her Section 1 neighbors worked in Rose Garden Park located at 34th and Lawrence. The irrigation system has been adjusted, Roundup® sprayed in the beds, and both fertilizer and pre-emergent weed herbicide applied to the lawn and roses.

The Garden Oaks Garden Club has adopted Friendship Park in Section 1 at W. 30th and Lawrence, so if you want to help maintain that area, please contact Garden Club President Cathy Wahren at gardenclub@gardenoaks.org.

Several neighbors on Lamonte along with the Beautification committee took care of the Gazebo Park and the Rick Englert SPARK Park sign.

Calls are needed to TXDoT to request clean-up of the North Shepherd right-of-way and the feeder street on 610 between Yale and Ella. The person to call is Daniel Dvorak at 281-319-6450; please specify case number 00050914. The more calls he gets, the more likely we will see some improvement.

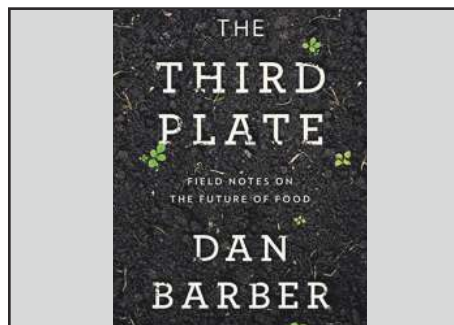


MICKEY'S MINUTE

By Mickey Morales

Well here I go again, telling y'all about a new book I'm reading. I have often said that if you want to disrupt the busy little life I lead, just hand me a book, especially a novel. I once read for twenty-one hours straight without sleep to finish a story. This time, however, I have no one to blame but myself. Armed with an Amazon gift card from Christmas, I ordered not one but two books. Luckily, they're more of a reference-type read that I can easily put down and pick up again where I left off.

The book that I'm currently reading is *The Third Plate* by Chef Dan Barber. Barber is a major advocate for a more in-depth look beyond the usual farm-to-table way of sourcing ingredients. The gist of the book is his prediction of what we will be eating in the year 2035: rather than writing about one plate, he put together three. The first is the traditional American plate of food, very meat-centric with a



smattering of vegetables, all conventionally grown. The second is virtually the same with the exception that all the ingredients are pasture-raised and locally sourced, and therein lies the problem. Many chefs within this movement want to cherry-pick the best of what we have to offer and leave us with the challenge of finding a market for the rest. Joel Salatin, the father of the "beyond organic" movement, was once approached by a high-profile chef from New York to sell him only the choicest cuts from his pastured cattle. He responded by saying, "do you know how much hamburger that is?", explaining that he would not sell him the best parts, but that

Local Farmers' Market

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9:00 am - 1:00 pm
948 Wakefield

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he sold only half or whole sides of beef. Dan Barber embraces this way of thinking and in describing a "third plate", he includes not only nose to tail cooking, but all the other items a farmer/rancher has to raise in order to bring that clean meat to the table. Incidentally, this third plate is a little less meat-centric, and also in line with what Farmer Cathy, the Nawara family, and Blackwood Bounty bring to our market each and every week. I, of course, handle the protein for the meal, chicken from Bryan Farms and sausage from Harrison Hog Farm.

As always, come soon, come often, and maybe I should start a book club.

GOMO Board of Directors

SECTION 1

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235 West 33rd
713-724-1271
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teresa.coleman@pobox.com

Chavonne Slovak (2017)
1035 Althea
713-682-3601
cmslovak@live.com

Each director's term expires in October of year in parentheses.

CONSTABLE PROGRAM UPDATE

By Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

Be Alert

Your attentive eyes and ears make a difference. Please notify Precinct Dispatch when solicitors are in the area. Deputies will check them out for the right credentials.

Support the Program

PLEASE JOIN TODAY AND SUPPORT OUR PROGRAM via the form in the *Gazette* or the link below. Even if you pay via PayPal, please complete the form. Thanks to all who have already sent in their dues for 2015.

Constable Program Contributions and Vacation Watch Forms are available at:

www.gardenoaks.org/constable

Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts:

pct1constable.net/signup/crime-alerts

CONNECT YOUR ALARM COMPANY WITH CONSTABLE DISPATCH:

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GOMO Review Meetings

take place at 6:30 p.m. prior to Civic Club meetings on the first Tuesday and at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

Meetings are open to anyone interested in attending.

Additional information about the
Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO)
is available online at GardenOaks.org.

Property owners in Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 are all members of GOMO.

CITIZENS' PATROL PROGRAM UPDATE

By Carl Waters, Jr., Program Chair

The Houston Police Department and the Precinct 1 Constable's office remind us that burglary of a motor vehicle is a crime of opportunity that can occur in only seconds. You are encouraged to secure personal property out of view or locked in your trunk.

February Crime Statistics (7)

Burglary (3)

800 block of W. 42nd on Tuesday, February 10 at 6:00 a.m. (garage).

1000 block of Gardenia on Sunday, February 22 at 11:55 a.m. (residence).

700 block W. 43rd on Wednesday, February 25 at 10:36 a.m. (residence).

Theft (4)

700 block of W. 41st on Saturday, January 31 at 11:39 a.m. (auto sales lot).

800 block of W. 41st on Saturday, January 31 at 4:35 a.m. (residence).

800 block of W. 41st on Saturday, January 31 at 4:17 a.m. (residence).

700 block of W. 42nd on Sunday, February 15 at 3:20 p.m. (driveway).

Emergency Numbers



Emergency Services
911

HPD Non-Emergency Services
713-884-3131

Constable Dispatch
713-755-7628

All Other City Services
311

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

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WE ARE THE WORLD!

*By Lindsey Pollock, Ed.D.,
Principal, Garden Oaks Montessori*

Students from Garden Oaks Montessori School returned late Sunday night, March 15th, from an adventure of a lifetime, thanks to the generosity of the Garden Oaks Civic Club! Twenty-three 7th and 8th grade students and four adult chaperones left Houston on Thursday March 12th to travel to Fort Wayne, Indiana for the Montessori Model United Nations (MMUN), Midwest Conference. The students had prepared for this event by selling popcorn and pickles throughout the year and working hard on research projects that they would present to other students at the event. Requirements for participation were passing grades, appropriate school behavior, good attendance, and completion of the projects associated with the event.

The MMUN is an annual event that provides students an opportunity to expand their perspectives about the world and realize their potential to change the world. The MMUN's mission statement reads as follows:

Our goal is to inspire youth. MMUN students formulate, present, debate, and revise positions on current issues that are affecting people of the world. By assuming the perspectives of a citizen of their selected countries, MMUN students not only develop an understanding of the needs and rights of others, but also learn [to] respect the cultures, the political views, and the belief systems of others.

Taking on their ambassadorial roles in a Model UN simulation, students research the issue that their UN committees will address. Model UN participants learn how the international community acts on its concerns about topics, including peace and security, human rights, the rights of the child, child labor, the environment, food and hunger, economic development and globalization.

Students from Garden Oaks were assigned to represent Chile, Bolivia, China, Azerbaijan, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO). Additionally, students were instructed to focus on the topics of Refugee Children, Universal Primary Education, Climate Change, Situation in Ukraine, and Situation in Syria. Our students prepared poster boards for display to other representatives at the conference, and studied Robert's Rules of Order in preparation for the proceedings.

The conference began with a flag ceremony with students marching into the ballroom carrying flags of their countries. An inspirational keynote speaker and environmental activist, Bremley Lyngdoh, challenged the students to change the course of the world and work



together to develop peaceful, equitable solutions to the problems our world is facing. Students then divided into committee sessions to debate positions and draft resolutions for change. The students' committees were Security Council, Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs Committee (SOCHUM), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and NGOs, where they worked on solutions based on their background knowledge of the countries they represented.

After two days of committee meetings and debates, the students read the draft resolutions to the general assembly that was gathered in the large ballroom. Countries voted to adopt the resolutions and celebrated the hope these ideas represented. The final draft resolution was produced by the NGO group who created a non-profit organization called Blueprint. This effort was designed by the students to develop chapters of student MMUNs across the country. They asked the students present to take the idea forward and asked for an initial donation of \$100 from the audience which was immediately made and matched by the chairperson of the event. Our Garden Oaks students were ecstatic to watch their ideas become reality!

This year was the first time a public Montessori school had ever participated in the Montessori Model United Nations event. It was also the first time many of our students had left Houston, ridden an airplane, or seen snow! Having the opportunity to work with students from all over the United States gave our students a broader view of the possibilities that lie ahead of them as they prepare for college and career opportunities in the very near future. As one Garden Oaks student stated, "I am so grateful to have this opportunity – the world is real and I am going to be ready to do my part!" Thank you Garden Oaks community members for making this dream a reality for our children – we ARE the world! To read more about the Montessori Model United Nations, go to montessori-mun.org.



Monday - Friday: 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

By appointment only

Saturday: 7:30 - 11:30 AM

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GO KIDS UPDATE

By Jaime Cain-Mireles

A couple months in, the 2015 Leadership Team has set the foundation for another fabulous year with GO Kids! Our recent focus has been finalizing event dates and securing sponsorships.



Our 2015 sponsorship campaign is under way!

We have 3 levels of sponsorship (Platinum, Gold, and Silver) with all levels receiving recognition on our website, BigTent, and on our GO Kids banner displayed at each event. If you are interested in sponsoring GO Kids, please fill out the "GO Kids Event Sponsorship" insert and mail to the address provided, visit our website (www.gardenoakskids.com), or contact Katherine Taylor at kat.p.taylor@gmail.com. A heartfelt thank you to those companies and individuals who have already committed; we would not be able to provide the amazing opportunities to the families in our neighborhood without your donation!

It is our goal to continue the traditions previous Leadership Teams have set. We remain committed to being a group where families connect and grow together while welcoming ALL parents, even expectant ones! Offering endless resources to members including the GO Kids website, a bouncy house, a forum on BigTent, playgroups for babies to big kids, Moms' Nights Out, new parent dinner drops, and annual organized events, all are welcome to attend! Mark your calendars for these Spring 2015 Events:

Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Zugheri Family

April 4, 2015 at GOMM Spark Park

Crawfish Boil

May 2, 2015

Our next GO Kids (open forum) meeting will occur in the first 2 weeks of April. Please refer to Big Tent for event details and to RSVP. We welcome ALL to join, provide input, share ideas, and identify opportunities to volunteer.



GO Kids Membership

- (1) Go to www.gardenoakskids.com
- (2) Select "email us for an invitation"
- (3) Include some information about yourself: your full name, information about your family, address (mandatory but will be kept confidential)

Website/Communication – www.gardenoakskids.com

Our website is updated regularly and includes bouncy house information. We offer a login portal to BigTent which provides a discussion board, classifieds, and a calendar for events and bouncy house reservations. You can also find us on Facebook!

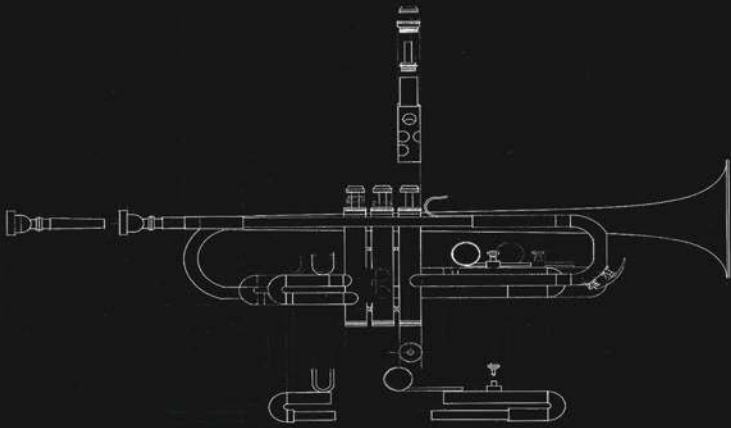
GO Kids Dinner Drops

Have you or someone you know welcomed home a new baby recently? Don't worry because help is on the way! GO Kids will coordinate and provide several meals to families. Please contact our Dinner Drop coordinator Julie Maddox at juliemaddox1@gmail.com to participate. We are always in need of volunteers for this program; please refer to www.gardenoakskids.com for directions on signing up.

GO Kids was started by a group of parents who wanted to build a family friendly neighborhood where children and parents know each other and grow together. All Garden Oaks families are welcome to join and attend GO Kids events. If you have questions or would like more information about GO Kids, please contact Lindsey Gabriel at lindsey.gabriel5@gmail.com.

Our organization is moderated entirely by parent volunteers. We hope to answer your questions and process the membership request as soon as possible; we cannot guarantee an immediate response. We really appreciate your patience and understanding and look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood!

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AIR CONDITIONING TIPS FOR THE SPRING

By Mitch Weigand

Mini-Splits: Making Comfort Possible One Room at a Time, Part One

Everyone wants to get the best use out of their home. Maybe you want to convert an unused space in your home or over your garage into an office, mother-in-law suite or hobby room. No matter what you have in mind, mini-splits offer the ideal comfort solution.

The History of Mini-Splits

At the end of World War II, Americans introduced ducted, central air conditioning systems and window units to Japan. These proved unsuitable because of limited interior space and the close proximity of buildings to each other. With Japan's densely populated urban areas, a more compact, noiseless A/C system was required. Additionally, they had to be very efficient since energy costs about 5 times as much there as it does in the United States.

Japan's solution was a split-type, ductless system which is quiet, powerful and space conscious. This form of air conditioning provided an energy-efficient way to cool or heat a home one room at a time. In 1954, Mitsubishi Electric began producing air conditioners and in 1968, after extensive engineering and marketing research, it introduced the wall mounted, split-type ductless design known now as Mr. Slim.

No Duct Work Needed

Mini-splits are perfect for spaces where duct work is impossible to install or noisy window units are not practical. The term "ductless" simply means that no duct work is involved. The system is comprised of two units - a lightweight, slim-line outdoor condenser and an indoor air handler. The condenser supplies freon to the air handler through lines which run through a 3" opening in the wall and into the back of the unit. The air handler draws in air from the room through a grill at the top and disperses newly-conditioned air back into the room through the bottom

grill. Some models provide special filters which promote additional humidity control and filtration.


Benefits

Energy efficiency is one of the most important benefits mini splits offer. They are approximately 10 times more efficient than traditional central A/C systems and 4 times more efficient than standard window units. In addition to outstanding efficiency, mini splits save you money via zone control. Why pay to heat or cool your entire home all year long when you live and play primarily in only one or two rooms?

Mini-Splits, Part Two will be featured in next month's issue.

LET ME SAVE YOU \$20.00 on your spring check. It's normally \$75.00 but now through May 31, 2015, it's only \$55.00! To schedule a spring check, call 713-231-2222. This is a limited time offer for Garden Oaks residents only.

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FAREWELL AND THANKS TO SCOUT MASTER MARC ROBERTS

By Chris and Jane Ann Roberts

After twenty years of dedication to Boy Scouting, Marc Roberts is retiring from his position as Scout Master of Troop 20, which is sponsored by St. Matthew's United Methodist Church. Marc views serving others as a privilege and wishes to thank everyone for the opportunities afforded him over the past two decades.

Marc's scouting journey started one fall evening in 1994 when his wife, Jane Ann, announced that she had enrolled their oldest son, Chris, in Cub Scouts at St. Rose of Lima, and that she had also signed Marc up as one of the Cub Scout leaders! And so it began – all the pinewood derbies, camping trips, badges, blue and gold banquets. When his second son, Steven, joined cub scouts a couple of years later, Marc expanded his involvement as Assistant Cub Scout Leader to two dens.

When Chris advanced to Boy Scouts and chose Troop 20, Marc went with him. Marc soon became one of Troop 20's Assistant Scout Masters, working alongside Scout Masters Chris Leavitt and John Barrett. In 2005, Marc officially became Scout Master of Troop 20. During his tenure as Scout Master, he has had the privilege of helping 30 boys fly as Eagle Scouts, including his sons, Chris and Steven. Last year, the Skyline District saw 20 young men achieve the rank of Eagle, nine of whom were from Troop 20 alone! This an incredible accomplishment for these boys, as only five percent of those who enter boy scouting go on to become Eagle Scouts.

Under Marc's tutelage and the incredible support of the wonderful assistant leaders and parents, Troop 20 has grown from only 5 boys to its current roster of 40 boys enjoying the experiences of scouting today. Marc has had so many scouting experiences he holds dear to his heart, especially the camping trips.

Marc feels that the camping trips are an integral part or the "sizzle" of scouting. Marc was a Cub Scout himself for only one year in Saudi Arabia where his father worked. His only childhood memory of scouting then was a camping trip in the desert. Today, when his sons and their friends talk about scouting, their conversations, laughter, and excitement revolve around the memories and experiences they all had on their many campouts. Probably the most memorable for Marc is the Cavalcade trip in which he, his sons, and 6 others spent a summer week on horseback in the Fort Davis Mountains in West Texas, camping primitively along the trail.



Over the last 20 years, Marc figures he has attended over 850 meetings and has gone on about 90 camping trips, nine of which were week-long summer camps. He has watched boys become men. He has watched them set goals and achieve them. He has watched them stumble and helped them get up to face a new day and new situations. He has guided so many into helping their community on so many levels. And, as the boys have done, Marc has developed lifelong friendships with the many terrific parents and boys involved in scouting. As his son Chris, who is now 26, once said at an Eagle Scout ceremony, "We may not remember how to tie a certain knot or remember some of the specifics of the badges we earned. The main things you receive from scouting are the memories and lifelong friendships you make while having those experiences." This has definitely been the case between the young men and adults that Marc has had the pleasure of spending time with along this journey.

Troop 20 will continue the fine traditions that Chris Leavitt, John Barrett, and Marc Roberts instilled and passed on to Troop 20's new Scout Master Todd Guerra, who now has the privilege of watching his own sons and others experience the world of scouting.

In passing the torch, Marc would like to say, "Thanks for the memories!"

SAVE THE DATE: WATER GARDEN AND POND TOUR 2015

You are cordially invited to the 2015 Water Garden and Pond Tour sponsored by the Houston Pond Society and the Lone Star Koi Club. This annual self-guided tour is a great way to spend a weekend!

You will enjoy looking at the various beautiful landscapes and fish and talking with the homeowners about how they achieved their backyard oases. You will learn what they did right and, more importantly, what they did wrong and would do differently. You will see everything from small garden ponds and patio fountains, to huge multi-pond landscapes and everything in between. Gain inspiration for your own pond. Bring your camera and photograph these backyards and enjoy talking with the friendly owners.

Tickets are only \$10.00 for both days and may be purchased in advance at Nelson Water Gardens (1502 Katy-Fort Bend Road in Katy) beginning in mid-April, or at any of the featured ponds on their tour day(s).



The Water Garden and Pond Tour will take place on

Saturday and Sunday, May 2-3
from **10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Tour addresses are available at

houstonpondsociety.org and lonestarkoi.com.



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GARDEN OAKS

SAVE THE DATE: GIRL SCOUT TROOP 21 BAKE SALE TO RETURN TO GARDEN OAKS MAY 17

By Tina Sabuco

You may remember last May when a group of special needs Girl Scouts led by Shellye Arnold and me held a bake sale in Triangle Park on the corner of Azalea and Alba. The sale was very successful and, thanks to the generosity of so many Garden Oaks residents, raised over \$1000, which has carried Troop 21 through the past 11 months of activities.

Troop 21 is the only special needs Girl Scout troop in the United States comprised of adults. They formed in 1976, and many of the then-young women are still members. Today, members range in age from their 20s to 60s. Like many Girl Scout troops, they meet monthly and have activities that help them learn, grow, and contribute – and have fun. This group, however, is not permitted to sell Girl Scout cookies as a fundraiser since they are actually adults.

There is a need for this very special troop to raise funds to support its activities throughout the year. Thus, Shellye and I organized the Troop 21 Garden Oaks bake sale in 2014 and are asking for your help again this year. We are putting out a call for neighbors and friends to donate baked goods to sell at the bake sale. And, of course, any type of contribution is always welcome, and PLEASE come by to purchase some of the yummy baked goods!



The bake sale will take place on **Sunday, May 17** from **12:00-2:00 p.m.** in the front yard of our home at **859 Azalea Street.**

In addition to the bake sale, Troop 21's ties to Garden Oaks continue to strengthen. Lily Bowman (daughter of Georgia Lister and Hal Bowman) and Megan Noser (daughter of Kari and Kip Noser) joined as junior troop leaders, and Lily's grandmother, Nancy Abercrombie, signed on as a troop leader as well.

If you can help, please contact me at tinamarie@abundanceretreat.com or 713-819-9339.



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Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 1/4 W x 2 3/8 H	\$60.00	\$300.00	\$580.00
2 1/4 W x 4 1/4 H	\$90.00	\$450.00	\$870.00
Half Page 7 1/2 W X 4 1/2 H	\$110.00	\$550.00	\$1065.00
Full Page 7 1/2 W x 9 1/2 H	\$180.00	\$900.00	\$1745.00
Half Page Back Cover	\$150.00	\$750.00	
Full Page Back Cover	\$225.00	\$1125.00	
Full-page insert, single-sided	\$180.00		
Full-page insert, double-sided	\$225.00		

Please note:

1. Placement of ads is subject to the discretion of the editor.
2. Artwork must be e-mailed to gazette@gardenoaks.org by the 15th of each month for publication the following month.
3. Artwork may be submitted in one of the following formats: **JPEG** (.jpg), **PDF** (.pdf), **GIF** (.gif) or **TIF** (.tif).

GARDEN OAKS OUTREACH

A color version of the *Gazette* is published each month on the Garden Oaks website www.gardenoaks.org/involvement/gazette.html.

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

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT

January – December 2015

Membership is open to all residents whether you own or rent. **While all memberships are voluntary, you must contribute at least at the Basic Level to be eligible to vote on civic club matters.** Membership dues are to be paid on or before **January 1st** for the calendar year.

Fill in Amount:

- \$ _____ Crepe Myrtle (Basic Level) Household Membership **\$25** (\$5 for Seniors)
- \$ _____ Red Oak (Patron Level) Household Membership **\$75** (\$15 for Seniors)
- \$ _____ Business Membership (Non-Voting Membership) **\$50**
- \$ _____ Contribution to Beautification (all neighborhood green spaces)
- \$ _____ Contribution to Garden Club (maintain Friendship Park, Section 1)
- \$ _____ **TOTAL**

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

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

OR

Pay online at www.gardenoaks.org/membership; upon completion, you will receive e-mail confirmation of your dues payment.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD!



2015 Constable Patrol Contributor Application & Contact Information

[] New Member or [] Renewal

Property Address : _____
Phone at this address: _____

Please provide contact information for program member(s) at this address:

Member 1 Information	Member 2 Information
Name: _____	Name: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____
Work Phone: _____	Work Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____	Cell Phone: _____

You may provide information for person(s) to contact in an emergency:

Emergency Contact Information	Emergency Contact Information
Name: _____	Name: _____
Home Phone: _____	Home Phone: _____
Work Phone: _____	Work Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____	Cell Phone: _____

Payment Options

- [] Enclosed find my payment for 2015 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 pay online (see below).

Many of our neighbors live on limited, fixed incomes. Are you willing to sponsor a neighbor?

- [] Yes! Please accept my additional gift of \$_____ for the year (enclosed).

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

or pay online at

www.gardenoaks.org/constable

APRIL 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
¹ Preceded by GOMO meeting beginning at 6:30PM. Acronym Key GOMM = Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet School, 901 Sue Barnett GOMO = Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization GOPB = Garden Oaks Professional Building, 4001 N. Shepherd, Suite 216 GF = Gluten-free			1 April Fool's Day	2	3 Good Friday	4 Easter Egg Hunt 3PM @ SPARK Park 901 Sue Barnett Farmers Market 9AM-1PM 948 Wakefield
5 Easter	6	7  Civic Club Meeting ¹ 7PM @ GOMM	8	9 GO Garden Club Plant Swap 6:30-8:00PM Gazebo Park	10	11 Farmers Market (GF) 9AM-1PM 948 Wakefield
12	13	14	15 GOMO Meeting 7PM @ GOPB	16 Heavy Trash Pick-Up (Junk Waste)	17	18 Farmers Market 9AM-1PM 948 Wakefield
19	20	21 	22	23	24	25 Farmers Market (GF) 9AM-1PM 948 Wakefield
26	27	28	29	30		



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families growing together

Dear Prospective Sponsor,

GO Kids currently has approximately 415 families actively participating within the group and is still growing. The new 2015-2016 Leadership Team has planned some exciting events for the families in Garden Oaks this year! We are asking the surrounding business community to help provide sponsorship support to ensure these events are a success.

Crawfish Boil – May 2nd

Movie Night in the Park – March 27th and November 13th

Back to School Bash – August 22nd

Halloween Bash – October 24th

Kids Fun Run/Turkey Trot – November 7th

Your sponsorship covers all events and will include many advertising benefits such as: your company name and logo on the Sponsorship banner at GO Kids events, Big Tent (our group forum) and the GO Kids website.

It is my hope you want to participate in supporting GO Kids' exciting events. This is a great way to give back to your community while expanding your network. We had amazing support in 2014 and hope for an even better 2015! The sponsorship form is attached with additional information on the different levels of sponsorship. We ask that sponsorship forms be received by April 3, 2015.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Katherine Taylor, Fundraiser Coordinator - GO Kids
kat.p.taylor@gmail.com



families growing together

Event Sponsorship

2015

Event schedule

May 2nd

Crawfish Boil

Spring & Fall

Movie Night

August 22nd

Back to School Bash

October 24th

Halloween Bash

November 7th

Kids Fun Run/

Turkey Trot

Premier Sponsorship Levels

□ **Platinum Level: \$750**

1. Table at Go Kids Sponsored Events
2. Opportunity to provide a service or food (photographer, face painter, pizzas for movie, etc.) at one of our events with acknowledgement at the event
3. Opportunity to provide marketing /goodie bags to event participants
4. Clickable Sponsor logo on GO Kids Website
5. Sponsor level and logo featured on BigTent (our forum)
6. Sponsor name and level included on GO Kids Banner posted at events

□ **Gold Level: \$500**

1. Opportunity to provide marketing/goodie bags to event participants
2. Sponsor logo on GO Kids Website
3. Sponsor level and logo featured on BigTent (our forum)
4. Sponsor name and level included on GO Kids Banner posted at events

□ **Silver Level: \$250**

1. Sponsor logo on GO Kids Website
2. Sponsor level and logo featured on BigTent (our forum)
3. Sponsor name and level featured on GO Kids Banner posted at events

Name: _____ Company: _____

Payment Total: _____ Payment Type: _____

PayPal to: GoKids01@hotmail.com (preferred)

Check payable to Angelica Sullivan, 830 W. 43rd St, Houston, TX 77018

Questions: Contact Katherine Taylor at kat.p.taylor@gmail.com