

# Garden Oaks

# Gazette

A publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

June 1998

Volume 21, No. 6

## June Meetings

June 2 - Civic Club Mtg  
7:00 pm  
GO Elem.  
Multi-Purpose  
Room

Please do not miss this  
**VERY IMPORTANT**  
meeting!!

In addition to the planned speaker from the HPD Store Front, we will discuss, along with city representatives, the proposed motel for Seccion 1, in the vacant lot across from Exxon. This is our last meeting before summer break and possibly the last time to take action before construction begins.

### **DON'T FORGET!!**

There will be no  
Civic Club  
meetings during  
July and August.

**HAVE A GREAT  
SUMMER!!  
WE'LL SEE YOU IN  
SEPTEMBER!**

## Over 850 Visitors Tour Garden Oaks' Homes and Gardens

On a beautiful sunny day six homes and three gardens were toured by a record crowd of over 850 visitors. During peak hours in the early afternoon when the lines at tour locations were the longest, patrons declared the wait well worth it. Visitors also enjoyed a tour of the Garden Oaks Boulevard esplanade escorted by Brenda de Alba and Keiji Asakura; this beautification project received some proceeds from the 1997 tour.

Traffic congestion this year was minimal due to the free buses taking patrons quickly from location to location with only a short wait between buses. Patrons agreed that it was much more convenient to be dropped off at the door and not have to walk from a distant parking place.

As of Sunday evening, May 17, total receipts from sponsorships, ticket sales, raffle sales and T-shirt sales were over \$18,000, with some receipts still to be collected. Both receipts and profits are expected to exceed last year's. The raffle brought in over \$2,000 due to larger prizes this year including a Southwest Airline trip for two and a party for 20 at Gulf Greyhound park. Please help me thank Tina Rowe of Section One for an outstanding effort in organizing this very successful raffle of over 50 prize packages.

There are many thanks due for this successful community project. First to all of the owners who so graciously opened up their homes and gardens for us to enjoy. Next to all of our sponsors who dug deep into their pockets to provide \$7,900 of our revenue: Corporate Sponsor AES -Houston/Carrier Corporation; Platinum Sponsors A J's Landscaping and Design, Campos Roofing, Harry James Builder, Houston Structural Company, Persona Fitness, S K Designs, Swilley-Hudson & Associates and Tony's Mexican Restaurant; Gold Sponsors Central Bank, Clouse Wood Floors, Gulf Coast Windows, Houston Lighting & Power, Terry Jeanes-ReMax Metro, Judi Morawski-Coldwell Banker United, Rean Bowden-Morgan Personnette Properties, Poncik Construction, Pat Walker and Judy Camp-Prudential Premier Properties, San Jacinto Stone and Andrew Smith CPA. Remember that the best way to thank these sponsors is to give them your business. Then to the many volunteers who gave their time and energy to make this a successful event. Also all of the Garden Oaks residents who supported us.

And last, but certainly not least, the Home Tour Committee members who worked so hard and long in organizing and staging this wonderful event. They made the chairing of this committee a pleasure. Brenda de Alba, procured and coordinated volunteers and with husband Ed de Alba organized the shuttle buses; Sheila Briones, designed graphics; Clare Foley-Bell, managed pre-sale ticket locations; M T Herring, raffle assistant and everyone's helper; Terry Jeanes, home

*continued page 10*

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**President's Letter**

by Craig Lee, 1998 Civic Club President

Last month, I discussed briefly an issue involving a homeowner in Section 1A. The HL&P easement was not being maintained at all, according to the resident. Since then, I discussed this issue with Maurie Walker who is HL&P community liaison for our general area. He has made it to two of our Civic Club meetings and indicated that he plans to come about every other month. Maurie's job is to listen and work with residents in the area about issues relating to HL&P. If you don't catch him at a meeting, he can be reached by phone at 696-5377. He is going to look into the easement.

Did you find a blue tag on your door notifying of the change in trash pickup? We learned at the meeting that while your garbage pickup may occur on Tuesdays instead of Thursdays beginning May 19th, the recycling pickup will not change. Don't get this mixed up. Speaking of recycling, don't forget, that the recycling guys don't take cardboard.

I'd like to thank the several members of the Garden Oaks Board of Trustees who came to the Civic Club meeting. Hopefully, next time we can get some of the trustees who could not attend. The work of the trustees is very important to maintaining the vision of Garden Oaks. Their work is critical to stopping those who either intentionally or unintentionally want to break the terms of the deed restrictions—usually in the form of setback violations. The Board of Trustees needs, in my opinion, to maintain a higher level of visibility. The members need to be dedicated to the purpose of the Board. If they lose interest, they should step aside and allow the space to be refilled. There is a limit to the number of trustees who represent each section—I think it's three. But there are often vacancies on the Board. If you want to dedicate some time to protecting and maintaining the deed restrictions, let the Board's president (currently Megan Berry Bartlow) know. All board members are listed with phone numbers on the back of each *Gazette*. They meet monthly and I am encouraging them to write more articles in the *Gazettes*. They have the power to force someone to tear down new construction and remodeling work that does not comply with deed restrictions, even if the work is complete. Older violations are a little more complicated but I do understand that older violations cannot not be rebuilt or improved. For example, if someone has a carport that violates the side setback distance (usually 15 feet) and the carport fall down, it cannot be replaced if it's replacement violates any restrictions. It is a good idea to check with the Board prior to any work on your home or garage.

Likewise, if you think someone is violating deed restrictions intentionally or unintentionally, contact a board member. Like most of us, the board members have regular full time jobs and don't really have time to constantly patrol the streets to enforce the restrictions. They need you to help be their eyes and ears. A little background: the Board of Trustees was set up

*continued page 10*

## Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

by Ed de Alba, Board of Trustees Secretary

Ed de Alba volunteered to act as Secretary and record the minutes. Minutes from the March meeting were approved by acclamation.

### Committee Reports

**Home Tour.** Judi Morawski made a call for additional volunteers. Ticket costs for volunteers are \$5; they also receive a nice T-shirt for their 3-hour shift. Ticket sales are off to a slow start but raffle sales are encouraging. And there are some great raffle prizes. Seven complimentary shuttle buses will be available during the peak hours of the show to minimize vehicular traffic on the day of the show and potential damage to street-side lawns.

**Beautification.** Ed de Alba reported that irrigation in the Triangle Park at the intersection of Alba & Azalea was completed three weeks ago. Many thanks to David and Andrew Bell, Tina Nieto, Rolf Sheffler and John Sommers for their hard and rain soaked work.

**Traffic.** Susan Garman said that sidewalks in the 700 block of West 43rd between Shepherd and Sue Barnett are out for bid. She is looking for block captains on 43rd to champion sidewalks on the 800, 900, and 1000 blocks. Also putting efforts forward to reduce the street rating from Major Thoroughfare to Residential. This will reduce posted speeds to 30 mph. City measured traffic speed on 43rd found average speed to be 35 mph and using some profound logic then raised the posted speed to 35. Now the average speed is 45! Traffic Control in Section 1A-Traffic Counters are back. Questions exist as to when the permanent barriers will be erected. Temporary barriers were put in place on January 17th. Speed Humps on 38th-working to get them replaced. This may not be done until the leaking sewer work is repaired. (The city stopped payment on the work because of the leaks and the contractor stopped work because the city stopped paying them.)

**Citizens on Patrol.** Carl Waters reported that seven crimes occurred, however one may be a duplicate. Captain DeFoor has been promoted and is now Assistant Chief of Police for Patrols. He has 5 areas plus the airport and Garden Oaks is still under his watchful eye. We wish him the best in his new position.

**Treasurer's Report.** Shelly Immel reported that we have \$27,000 in the bank. Constable Patrol has \$3000 which is better than last month.

### Year to Date:

Item	Budget	Actual
Dues:	\$7300	\$9100
Home Tour:	\$6600 income	\$4500 spent
Beautification:	\$1900	\$9500
Gazette:	\$4000	\$10600 Projected to be \$900 over budget for year

**Constable Patrol.** Bob Wright reported for his wife, Donna Archer.

*continued page 9*

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- 847 W. 42nd St.
- 701 Garden Oaks Blvd.
- 713 Garden Oaks Blvd.
- 4232 Apollo
- 855 Azalea
- 829 Lamonte
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- 1575 Sue Barnett
- 954 Gardenia
- 1043 Gardenia

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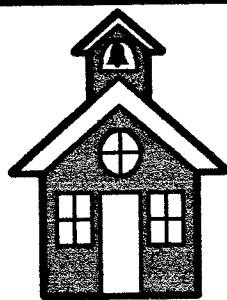
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## Education Corner



### St. Rose of Lima

Were you wondering what activities there are for kids in our area that will keep them (a) safely occupied, (b) busy and stimulated, AND (c) interested and happy this summer? St. Rose's Summer Safari is a summer camp designed to create an atmosphere of fun while providing the camper with self-esteem, self-discovery, goal setting, conflict resolution and communication skills.

Children ages 5-11 will be grouped by age and will have the

opportunity to explore the arts, sciences, cooking, organized games, field trips and much more.

We are a licensed program available in weekly sessions from June 1 through July 31. Campers may enroll in one or more sessions.

Hours: 7:00 am - 6:00 pm  
 T-shirt will be supplied

Fees: Registration \$25.00  
 Weekly \$110.00  
 Daily \$30.00  
 Reduced Hours Weekly (9:00 am - 3:00 pm) \$80.00

For more information or to enroll, call 713 695-3971.

### Garden Oaks Elementary

Garden Oaks Elementary has won the HISD Northwest District Outstanding Volunteer Program Award! We received special honors at the HISD Volunteer Award Program on May 14.

Our volunteer program at Garden Oaks continues to grow by leaps and bounds. We have had well over 100 new parents or volunteers this year. Our PTA and Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) Coordinator have done a fantastic job. They deserve much of the credit for this award.

Garden Oaks also enjoys the benefits of its partnerships with Memorial Hospital Northwest and McCoy, Inc. We also are partnered with many smaller businesses and churches in the area, including Chassy's, the Oak Forest Branch Library, and the Northwest YMCA. We receive volunteers to tutor and to serve on our decision-making committees. These organizations also donate time and materials to our classrooms. We feel very fortunate to also claim the Garden Oaks Civic Club as one of our "partners".

Our parents, faculty, and staff have voted overwhelmingly to go to student uniforms for next school year. Also, Garden Oaks will have a summer program for students in need of remediation, limited English speaking students, and students in certain special education classes.

If you think there is no such thing as a free lunch, you are wrong. Garden Oaks will be part of the National School Lunch Program this summer. All children aged 18 and under may come to the school cafeteria between 10:30 and 12:30 each school day and receive a free lunch from our cafeteria. This is a part of a federal, state and local initiative to feed children during the summer months. There will be no qualifications to receive a lunch except age.

We had a fantastic school year! We're planning a great beginning in August!

## Oak Forest

It's SPRING and things are buzzing at the school. Recently a new air conditioning system was installed. It's been over 45 years since the unit has been replaced but it's a COOL addition to the school. While things are pleasant inside, the parents have decided to make the entrance on 43rd Street a pretty sight. The Beautification Committee is busy as bees planting flowers.

The students continue to make great strides academically. Fifty young writers took center stage at the Houston's Menil Museum to read their writings. The project is a part of the Writers In The Schools Program. The participants are chosen for the readings through a competitive judging process. Raven Bell and Stefani Gonzales were the only readers from the Northwest area. HATS OFF TO THESE YOUNG WRITERS!!!

Vanguard Fifth graders have been making wise investments. These students participated in the Houston Chronicle Stock Market Game. They competed in the Middle School region and one of the teams placed second out of 312 teams. The students learned to use the newspaper and other media research to gather information about the companies and stocks. They learned to identify and explain various aspects of the American economic system. Classroom teacher Anita Kinra and the second place team will be honored at the Chronicle In Education Department Stock Market Awards Reception. WAY TO GO!!!

The melodius sound of SPRING are all around. The Boys and Girls Choirs have released their first CD - "FILL THE WORLD WITH MUSIC". The musical selections are eclectic in nature and range from Jazz to Classical and from Spirituals to Contemporary, including traditional Christmas music. for more information about the purchase of a CD, please call 613-2535.

Schoolwide, we are celebrating our recent award - TEXAS SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS AWARD. Texas Education Agency gives monetary awards to schools that have demonstrated high levels of sustained success or show great improvement in achieving educational goals. OAK FOREST is one of 97 schools in HISD.

We are still accepting Vanguard applications for the following grades: Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th. Please call 613-2538 for information.

## St. Michael's Parish Day School

St. Michael's, 1613 West 43rd Street, is now registering for our 1998 Summer Day Care Program. The program will begin on Monday, June 1st and run through Friday, August 14th. Hours will be from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm. There will be separate groups and planned programs for pre-school (3-5 yrs) and K-6th grades (5-12 yrs). For more information or to register please call St. Michael's Parish Day School at 681-6422 or Linda Blackmon at 681-6036.

St. Michael's is also accepting registrations for the 1998-99 school term. Classes for 3 yr olds, Pre K and Kindergarten will be offered. Mother's Day Out and extended Care Programs will be available for all our students. To register for the fall semester, please call the school office between 8 am and 12 noon at 681-6422 or Virginia Baros at 686-0645.



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## GAZETTE DELIVER NEEDED!!!

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## Citizen's Patrol

by Carl Waters, Jr.

It was announced at the April PIP meeting that Captain Jerry DeFoor of the North Division has been promoted to Deputy Chief of the HPD Patrol Division. Captain DeFoor was instrumental in the development of the Near North storefront located at Ella and 43rd Street, which house the Differential Response Team (DRT). This program has become a model for the entire department. We wish Captain DeFoor well in his new assignment and will miss his openness and innovated approach to community policing.

Seven crimes were reported to HPD during the month of March. They were an assault, a burglary, and five burglaries of motor vehicles. The assault occurred in the 900 block of Lamonte Ln on 3/18/98 at 5:00 pm. The burglary occurred in the 900 block of Gardenia on 3/5/98 at 2:00 pm. The burglaries to motor vehicles occurred in the 1000 block of Lamonte Ln on 3/20/98 at 5:00 pm (two entries with the identical information), 3400 N. Shepherd on 3/6/98 at 2:30 am and again on 3/21/98 at 6:00 pm and 4300 Alba on 3/26/98 at 1:09 pm.

Patrollers and bases logged 64 hours in March and I thank all of them for contributing their valuable time to our program.

Many of you may have participated in last month's Home Tour. Patrolling as a member of the COP is another way you can check out what's going on in the neighborhood all year round. Call me at 864-1992 for more details.

School is not OUT for the summer so watch out for kids at play! Have a safe and happy summer.

**National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday August 4, 1998. Start making plans for your block party now!**

WE



GARDEN OAKS!!

## Beautification Update

by Brenda de Alba

Compliments have been reaching us from all over the neighborhood regarding the Esplanade work. I've even heard that some neighbors have changed their route of exiting the neighborhood so they can drive by and see what is blooming.

Speaking of blooming...the daylilies planted on the east end at Sue Barnett have put on a spectacular display! The red ones are Rosie Meyer and the yellows are called Cream Curls.

The Triangle Park at Alba and Azalea FINALLY has a working irrigation system. The trenching was accomplished on a Friday and the installation took place on the only rainy, drizzly Saturday we've had in ages. Thanks to David & Andrew Bell, James Sommers, Rolf Sheffler, Tina Nieto, and Ed de Alba for making this happen. Bed preparation and plantings are planned for the near future. If you live in the vicinity of the Triangle Park and you'd like to make a donation for the plantings, please send your check made out to the Garden Oaks Civic Club to Brenda de Alba, 858 LaMonte, 77018. I guarantee it will be a good investment! In fact, Alba residents, Jim & Laurel Sommers, are the first to make a donation to this park. Thanks!

I'd like to give another plug for the Community Garden on Alba if you have an interest in growing vegetables. Bob Gabrysch has done a beautiful job of irrigating the beds and could still use help. He can be reached at 686-5493.

May Yard of the Month  
was awarded to

Margaret and Anthony Riebeling  
4212 Apollo - Section 5  
Congratulations!

Margaret is a "true" gardener whose front and back yards reflect a rich diversity of perennials, annuals, and native plants. Anthony is a master at composting and provides Margaret the rich soil to indulge her hobby. He is also a skilled carpenter whose projects provide the garden art.

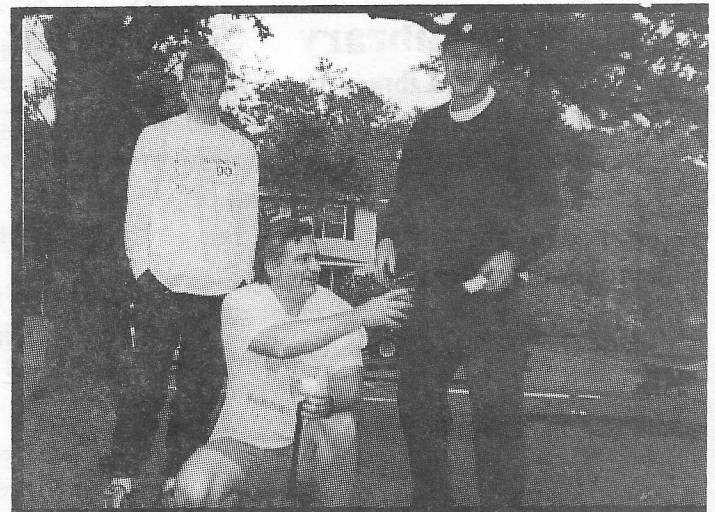
## Upcoming Garden Club Activities and Events!

June

Gardening Workshop For Kids

July 9th

Ferns - Mike Lowery; Owner, Another  
Place in Time  
421 West 11th Street



Irrigation system is put into Triangle Park



Triangle Park undergoes beautification

## June Birthdays



Grayson McInnis, June 3  
 Madison McCracken,  
 June 3  
 Blaze Kostelecky, June 6  
 Graham Abrams, June 8  
 Christopher Lee, June 18  
 Woody Bell, June 22

### TO SUBMIT BIRTHDAYS TO THE GAZETTE:

**CALL OR WRITE THE EDITOR,  
 MEREDITH, AT 697-5654 OR  
 855 WEST 43RD. THE YEAR  
 BORN IS NOT REQUIRED!!**

## Oak Forest Library

Oak Forest Library provides a variety of materials and services free of charge to all ages. Materials available are: books, CDs, cassettes, books on tape, access to entertainment and educational videos from the Central Film Library, internet access, and magazines. Librarian Jenny Timmons holds weekly storytimes on Tuesdays at 10:30 am for children. Monthly crafts are often held after school on Wednesdays. Summer Reading Clubs are held at all libraries during June and July. Children who read ten or more books are eligible to win awards. Calendars of activities will be available in community gatherings. Groups that must there on regular basis are National Women of Achievement, Home Metal Shop, Overeaters of Anonymous, and the Oak Forest Coupon Club. The library phone number is 688-2251. Hours are 12-9 Mondays and Thrusdyas, and 10 am-6 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The Oak Forest Library is located at 1349 West 43rd in the shopping ceneter across from Kroger, at the west side.

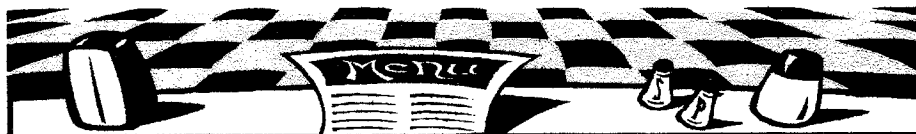
# Neighborhood Tidbits

## HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

### 24-HOUR PHONE NUMBERS

### OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

Air Pollution	640-4200	Dead Animal Pick Up	699-1113
Animal Regulation	547-9410	Garbage Pick Up	956-6589
Dumpster Complaints	694-0724	Heavy Trash Pick Up	699-1114
Parks Department	645-4357	Parks Department	845-1000
Street Repair, Ditches	754-0600	Street Light Repair	207-7777
Traffic Signal/Sign Repair	754-0600	TX Department Public Safety	681-1761
Water & Sewer Probs	754-0600	Police Non Emergency	222-3131



## Garden Oaks Galloping Gourmet

Chassy's Yogurt & Ice Cream Shoppe, located at 3832A North Shepherd in the Garden Oaks, provided a special treat for the GOGG this month. What a great place to indulge your sweet tooth and you don't even have to feel guilty!

Blue Bell Ice Cream, Low Fat Yogurt and No Fat Yogurt are all available - and at prices you just cannot believe!! A small cone or cup actually contains 3 scoops of Blue Ball and is only \$1.25 and a large contains 5 scoops and is only \$1.90 . . . Such a deal!!

They have a large selection of both ice cream and low fat yogurt. They also offer two flavors of no-fat yogurt daily and will twist them together for a special treat. Shakes, malts, and banana splits round out the menu as well as your figure.

A special of the house is "Death By Chassy's" and consists of seven scoops of ice cream, seven toppings, whip cream, nuts, cherry and two cookies. It costs \$5.95 and easily serves four people and all I can say is "What a way to go!"

Chassy's is owned and operated by the Doubrava family and the service is always friendly. The TV provides a down-home atmosphere and you will always leave there "full"filled. Hours of operation are Monday - Saturday 11:30





## Civic Club Minutes

*continued from page 3*

Approximately \$16,500 owed to end of contract. They are doing well with approximately 50% of houses supporting the program. Please send checks to 503 West 32nd. They can be reached at 869-3388.

**Hospitality.** Terry Jeanes has possibly scheduled the HPD Direct Response Team for next month's speaker. They'd like to discuss their programs and get resident input. The StoreFront will have been in place for one year next month. Their program is evolving, they'll tell us what they're doing and what their plans are.

**Old Business.** None.

**New Business.**

**Cell Tower Ordinance.** This ordinance passed and is now in review period (see last month's *Gazette* for Bruce Tatro's letter regarding the ordinance). Intent is to keep them as far as practical from neighborhoods.

**Trash Day.** Trash Day is moving to Tuesday as of May 19th. Grass pickup will also move to Tuesday but recycling will stay on alternate Thursdays. Heavy trash remains on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. For more info contact Betty Lemmon at 865-4210. Many thanks to V.D. and Laverne Kelly for looking into this!

**HL&P Representative.** Maury Walker will attend every other meeting. Nov. 13th is HL&P non-profit day.

**Speakers: Garden Oaks Board of Trustees**

Megan Barlow, President, introduced board members attending the Civic Club meeting. They were: Ed de Alba, Section 1 & Secretary; Bennett Bartlett, Section 1; Herb Kellner, Section 3 & Architectural Review Chairman; Harry James, Section 4; and Helen Sestak, Section 5. Section 2 was not represented. Copies of Deed Restrictions are available from the board (see back of *Gazette* for phone numbers). The deed restrictions are unique to each section of the neighborhood.

The Board has the same interest as the people attending the meeting - to keep the neighborhood looking good through oversight of the property setbacks. Herb asked for assistance from the neighborhood with people reporting

building and/or violations that they notice. This will save someone the expense of having to tear down an illegal structure.

Education will nip problems in the bud - before they come up. The board's aim is to protect property values and maintain continuity. The board has no control over taste or architectural style.

**Q:** How is membership in the Board decided?

**A:** Membership is specified in the Deed Restrictions and the Bylaws of the Board. We need people on the Board especially from Section 4 & 5.

**Q:** What is the process for building approval?

**A:** Deed Restriction pamphlets are available for free. To review we need a copy of the plans and a site plan. We are enforcing set back requirements. On approval Board will write a letter that says improvements met deed restrictions. A \$15.00 fee is collected if plans are approved. If plans are not approved you can get an "at risk" permit which you will sign stating that you comply with all deed restrictions.

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## Plants of the Esplanade

*by Brenda de Alba*

Two varieties of Louisiana Iris have been planted on the Esplanade: Clyde Redmond (white) and Marie Delores (Blue). Louisiana irises are native to the Gulf Coast, where the soil is rich and there is plenty of humidity and moisture. Unlike most other iris family members, Louisianas actually thrive in boggy conditions, even when partially inundated for long periods. They do not, however, require these conditions and grow well in most any good garden soil. Moist conditions during winter and early spring are usually sufficient.

Louisiana irises like rich, highly organic soil. The evergreen foliage is tall and handsome. Flowers occur in spring and work well at the rear of a perennial border or at the edge of a garden pond. Fall, winter, and spring are their primary growing seasons. Hot, dry conditions will induce a dormancy that seems to cause little, if any, harm to the plants. Dividing the plants in the fall every 3 or 4 years is a helpful cultivation practice and is also the major means of propagating the plants.

## Home Tour

*continued from front page*

tour committee "veteran" and realtor liaison; Meredith Jenkins, organized and scheduled tour home selection and was primary communication with tour home owners; Susan Kostelecky, head of fund raising totalling \$7,900; Laura Morgan, last year's committee chair provided continuity and counsel; Tina Nieto, treasurer; Tina Rowe, organized the raffle and silent auction that raised over \$2,700; Tina Sabuco, planned and executed set-up of the tour homes and with Shellye Arnold wrote the docent scripts; Lynn Sievers who helped us all greatly the day of the event and between business trips out of the country; Shana Tatum, organized the preview party and managed the shuttle base station; Abbie Watkins, publicity.

## More Flowers for the Esplanade . . . Thank you Isabelle and Sophie!

Young Garden Oaks Section 1 residents, Isabelle and Sophie Asakura, were a huge success with their lemonade and soft drink stand positioned in the Esplanade directly across from one of the tour homes during the Home and Garden Tour. In a little over 3 hours they earned \$40. Imagine my surprise when I found an envelope the next day in my mailbox with fifteen \$1 bills and a note that read: " Miss Brenda, Please buy more flower with this money. Isabelle and Sophie Asakura. " I haven't been this touched in a LONG time!! *Thank you, Isabelle and Sophie...I promise your \$15 will go towards more flowers for the Esplanade.*

## Summer Events

- **Fishes Pool & Swim Club 933 Fisher 682-0277**  
Pool Hours    Tues-Thurs: 5-8 pm  
                  Friday: Noon  
                  Sat: Noon-8 pm  
                  Sun: Noon-7 pm  
                  *Closed Monday*

Membership is \$200 for families of 4 or less and \$100 for singles.

- **Children's Victorian Tea    June 26th**

The Houston Heights Woman's Club will sponsor a Children's Victorian Tea and Etiquette on June 26 at 11 am for children ages 4-11 and accompanying adults. Cost is \$20 per person. A full tea luncheon menu for both adults and children will be served and each child will receive a photograph. For more information, call Laura Virgadamo at 880-8393.

## President's Letter

*continued from page 2*

with legal and official powers to enforce the Garden Oaks deed restrictions. The board is a direct descendent of the original developers of this subdivision. They do not handle disputes between you and your neighbor. They do not enforce city ordinances. They are not a "historical commission." And they are not affiliated with the Civic Club. It's the Civic Club's purpose to work with the neighborhood to maintain and improve everything else not covered by the deed restrictions. The board's duty is to enforce the rules that Garden Oaks was built upon. If you want to know more, contact one of them. Also, contact a member if you want a copy of the deed restrictions for your section.

Web Heads... We have registered a "domain name" for Garden Oaks on the internet. But before you run and try to find it on the Web, we don't currently have a Web site or even an internet connection. The domain name is "**GardenOaks.org**." In time, I hope we'll be able to put together a web page on the internet. Think about ideas for this page. If you want to volunteer to help design it—or to design it period—let me know.

Speaking of internet, my email address is cleec@firstnethou.com.

We have one more Civic Club meeting before our summer break. The June meeting will include as guest speaker Ralph Smith, who will bring us up to date on the purpose and happenings of the police dept's Differential Response Team (DRT) who have taken up residence in the shopping center at W. 43rd and Ella (across from the overwhelmingly large new Kroger store). DRT has matured over the past year. Be there to discuss how to serve our community best. Look

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## **The Education IRA is Good News for College Savers**

*by Tom Stell, Dean Witter Account Executive, Galleria Office 713-966-5946*

Beginning in 1998, there is a new way to save money for college costs -- the "Education IRA." Unlike the Individual Retirement Account (IRA), the Education IRA has nothing to do with retirement. However, the concept is similar.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, which created the Education IRA, allows eligible individuals to contribute up to \$500 each calendar year on behalf of any child under age 18. Any earnings will then grow on a tax-deferred basis. When money is taken out of an Education IRA, the distribution is tax-free as long as it does not exceed the child's qualified higher education expenses (including tuition, fees, books, and basic room and board).

### **How the Education IRA Works**

In 1998, single taxpayers with adjusted gross income (AGI) less than \$95,000, or couples filing jointly with AGI less than \$150,000, are eligible to make the maximum contribution to an Education IRA. The permissible contribution gradually phases out for single taxpayers as their AGI rises from \$95,000 to \$110,000 and for couples jointly filing as their income rises from \$150,000 to \$160,000. Parents may establish an Education IRA for each of their children. Grandparents, other relatives, or friends may also establish an Education IRA for a child. In fact, anyone, including the child, who meets the income eligibility requirements may contribute to help a child build a nest egg for college. Keep in mind, however, that \$500 per child per year is the maximum aggregate amount that may be contributed from all contributors.

If a child does not need or use the Education IRA for college, the account balance may be rolled over to the Education IRA of certain family members who may use it for their qualified higher education expenses. The child himself or herself may also withdraw funds; however, the portion of the distribution that represents earnings accumulated in the account generally is subject to income taxes. The taxable portion of the withdrawal is also subject to a 10% premature distribution tax penalty, unless an exception applies.

With the rising cost of higher education, now may be the time to look into opening an Education IRA for each of your children or grandchildren. If you would like to learn more, please call Tom Stell at 713-966-5946.

This article does not constitute tax advice. Investors should consult their individual tax advisors before making any tax-related investment decisions. Information and data in this article were obtained from sources considered reliable. Their accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed, and the giving of the same is not to be deemed a solicitation on Dean Witter's part with respect to the purchase or sale of securities or commodities.

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# June 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Civic Club Mtg. 7 p.m.  GO Elementary	3	4	5	6  <i>Gazette Deadline</i>
7	8	9	10	11  Curbside Recycling 	12	13
14	15	16  Heavy Trash Pick-Up	17	18	19	20
21  Father's Day	22	23	24	25  Curbside Recycling 	26	27
28	29	30				

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

**President:**  
Craig Lee, 212 West 34th, 802-0079

**Vice President, Membership/Welcoming**  
Tom Stell, 1058 West 42nd, 688-4681

**Vice President, Gazette Editor:**  
Meredith Jenkins, 855 West 43rd, 697-5654

**Gazette Co-Editor:**  
Rebecca Stark, 734 West 42nd, 691-1067

**Gazette Advertising Director:**  
Susan Kostelecky, 1318 Sue Barnett, 697-4110

**Treasurer:**  
Shelly Immel, 1058 West 42nd, 688-4681

**Secretary:**  
TBA - Volunteer Needed!!

**Committee Chairs**

**Citizens-on-Patrol:** Carl Waters, Jr., 864-1992

**Constable Program:** Donna Archer, 869-3388

**Garden Club:** Janice Walden, 869-6534

**1998 Home & Garden Tour:** Judi Morawski, 956-8911

**Hospitality & Refreshments:** Terry Jeanes, 680-8550

**Programs:** Terry Jeanes, 680-8550

**Beautification:** Ed & Brenda de Alba, 694-5934

**Nominations:** TBA

**Contacts**

**Education Liaison:** Missy Coward, 956-6492

**Gazette Hand Delivery:** Brenda de Alba, 694-5934

**Neighborhood Traffic Program:** Susan and James Garman, 688-9052

**Board of Trustees**

**Section 1:** Ed de Alba, **Secretary**, 694-5934; Rod Walker, 868-2469; Bennett Bartlett, 861-2155

**Section 2:** James Doyle, 694-4134; Tim Pagel, 692-7431; Susan McMillian, 695-8245

**Section 3:** Cheryl Cohorn, 692-4904; John Goodman, 695-5814; **Architectural Review Chairman:** Herb Kellner, 692-2776

**Section 4:** Richard Broad, 957-8075; Harry James, 695-7007 **President:** Megan Berry Barlow, 681-1880

**Section 5:** Kirk Dice, 694-2247

# Many Thanks to the following businesses which gave In-Kind Donations for the Home Tour

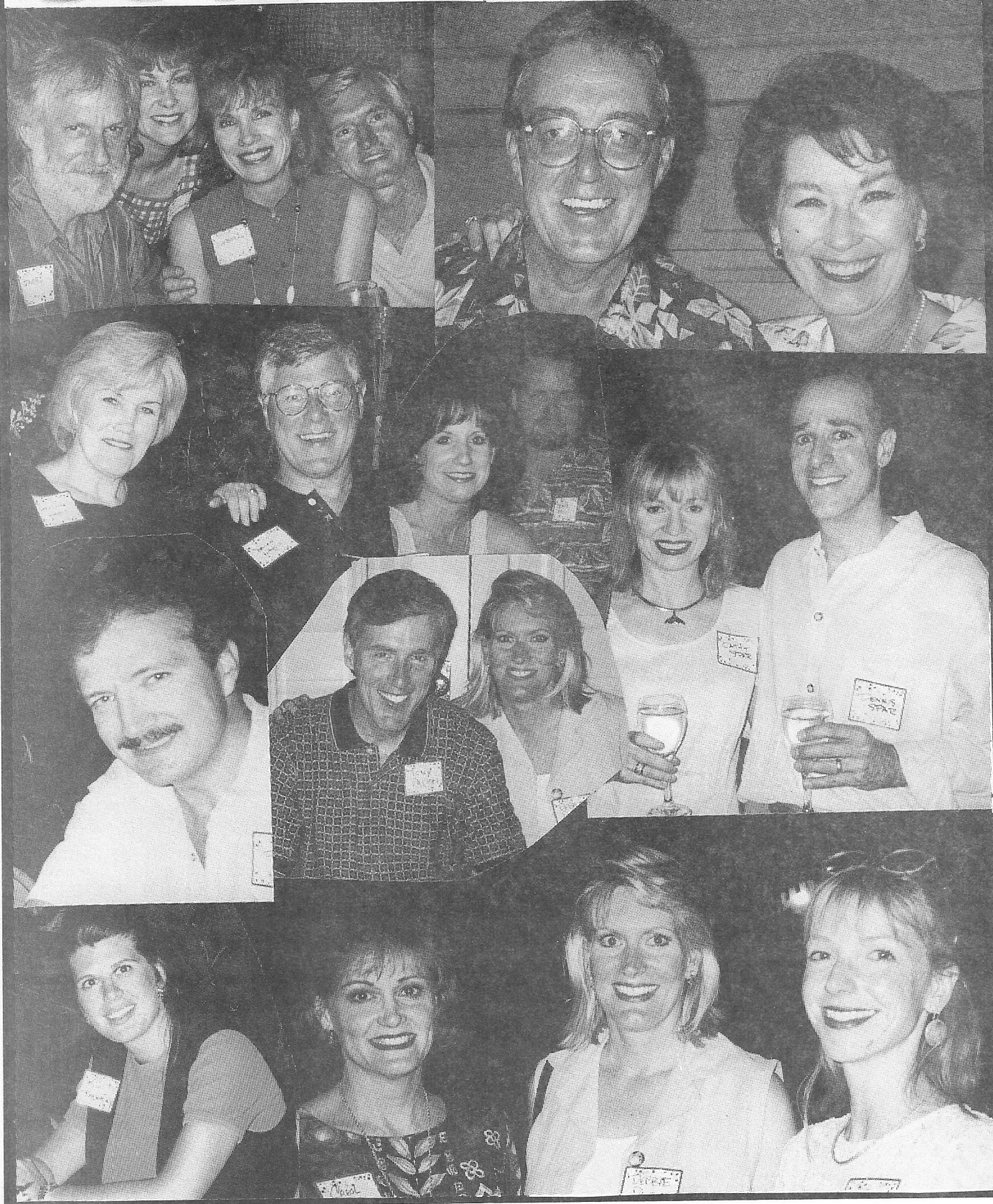
Adrian's Restaurant Y Cantina	Galveston Historical Foundation	Pecos Grill
American Health Food	Garden Oaks Cleaners	P.G.'s Tees
ARTS ALIVE!	Gold, Glass & Wood Effects	Pizza Hut on 43rd
Auntie Pasto's	Kelly Gorski Hair Design	Pro-Tec Pest Control
Bally's Total Fitness	Grogan Builders Supply	Q-Lube on Ella
Barbecue Inn	Gulf Greyhound Park	Quartaro's Italian Restaurant
Bells My Own Cleaners	Hickory Hollow	Rainbow Lodge
Bergner and Johnson Design	Hofbrau Steaks	Ramada Plaza Hotel
Binswanger Glass	Home Depot	Randall's on 34th
Brink's Hardware	House of Coffee Beans	Roznovsky's Hamburgers
Buchanan's Native Plants	Lynn Hutchins-Houston Chronicle	T•Shirt Works
B & W Meat Market	Jana's Flowers	Sherwin Williams
Chassy's Yogurt & Ice Cream	Kaplan's-Ben Hur	Shipley Do-Nut on Ella
Complete Car Care	Kroger on 20th	Beth Smith Massage Therapy
Courtyard by Marriott Brookhollow		Smith & Hawken
Data Voice Technology (Ralph & Charlotte Hayes)		Southwest Airlines
Discount Tire Co.	Kroger on 43rd	Spiritual Heights
DJ's Lawn Care	Laff Stop	Tex-Sun Tan
Doubletree-Houston Allen Center	Legato-The Hair Salon	The Cat's Pajamas
Doyle's Restaurant	Main Street Theater	The Frame Shop
Dr. Gleem Car Wash	Merle Norman Boutique	The Houston Ballet
Edie's Curls for Girls	Mexicatessan	Venus Hair
Faust Distributing	Miller's Cafe	Wabash Feed & Antiques
Flying Saucer Pie Co.	Mills Bible Store	Willie's Jewelry
Pat H. Foley Funeral Home	Mi Sombrero	Wings N' More
Haute Groceries	Mister Car Wash	
Gaido's/Casey's Restaurant	Mytiburger	
	Nails by Michelle and Diane	
	National Pet Center	
	Mary Parks Massage Therapy	

Please help us thank these businesses - the  
best way is by giving them your business!

# Preview Party



# Preview Party

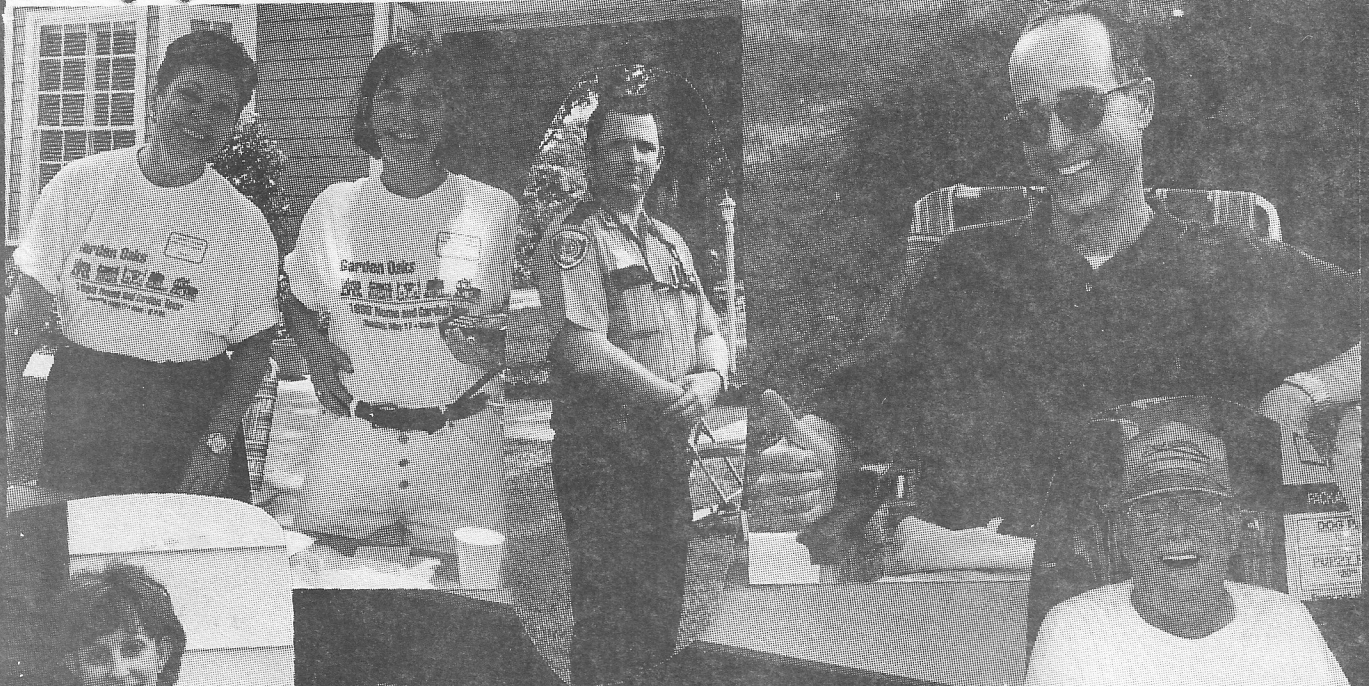


# 1998 Home & Garden Tour





# 1998 Home & Garden Tour



**Garden Oaks**  
Home and Garden Tour  
*Corporate Sponsor: AES-Houston/Carrier Corporation*



**Garden Oaks Civic Club Membership Form**

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

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

Year moved to Garden Oaks: \_\_\_\_\_ Section# \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES (January 1 - December 31) Make checks payable to: Garden Oaks Civic Club**  
Household \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ Senior Citizen \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ Business \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS**

GO Elem. Montessori\* \$7 \_\_\_\_\_ Garden Club \$7 \_\_\_\_\_ Beautification \$7 \_\_\_\_\_  
Gazette Newsletter \$7 \_\_\_\_\_ GO-COP \$7 \_\_\_\_\_ All five of these \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Gifts to the Montessori program are tax deductible*

I would like to be involved with the following program (s) or committee (s). Please call me.

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to Craig Lee, 212 West 34th Street, Houston, Texas 77018

**GARDEN OAKS CONSTABLE PROGRAM  
1998 Annual Membership Dues**

NAME (S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$230 Make checks payable to: Garden Oaks Civic Club**

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

This envelope is provided for your convenience. Please clip the  
Membership Renewal coupon from the *Gazette* and mail it with  
your check by December 31.  
Thank you very much for your support.

**Garden Oaks Civic Club**  
Craig Lee, VP/Membership  
212 W. 34th.  
Houston, TX 77018

**Garden Oaks Civic Club**  
Craig Lee, VP/Membership  
212 W. 34th.  
Houston, TX 77018

## **Developer Plans to Build 32 Room Motel in Garden Oaks**

The Garden Oaks Board of Trustees received plans in the last month from developer Chandu Patel for a 32 room Scottish Inn Motel to be built at the intersection of Yale and 30<sup>th</sup> Street. The motel would be on the three empty lots opposite the Exxon station along 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Drawings of the motel are on the back of this insert. The Southern Elevation is a view of the motel from across 30<sup>th</sup> street and the Western Elevation is the view from Yale. Also on the back of this insert is a view of the motel from above. Currently, the plan also includes a 42-foot tall, 160 square foot sign, a resident manager's apartment, and parking for 34 vehicles.

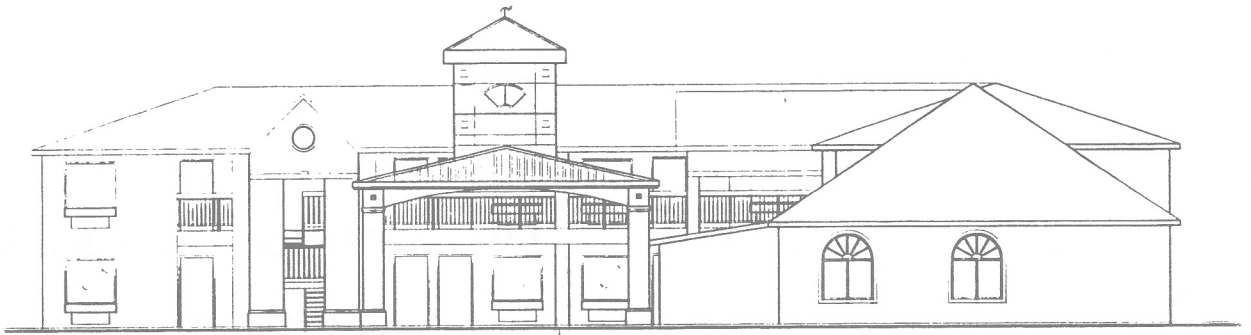
This is the same developer whose plans for a 22 room motel in Arbor Oaks at the corner of Antoine and Cypress Grove were profiled in the May 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the Leader. Residents there overwhelmingly oppose the introduction of this type of business into their neighborhood.

The Board of Trustees and the Civic Club Leadership have several concerns with the placement of a motel in Section I:

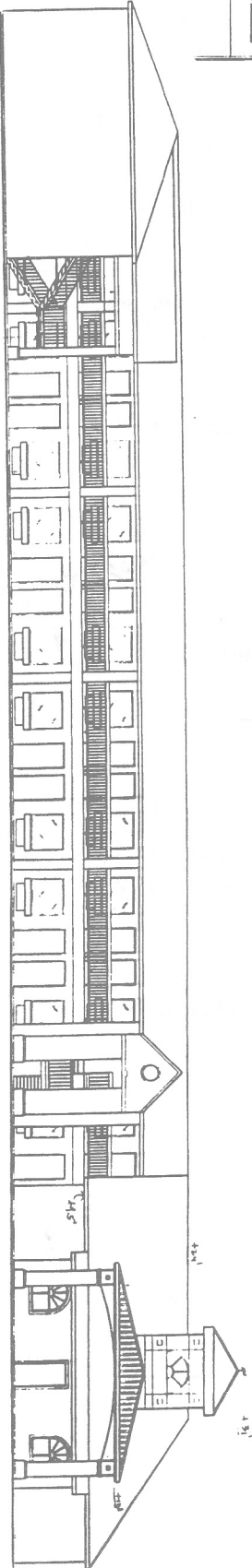
- Out of character with the neighborhood – Garden Oaks is a residential neighborhood.
- Nature of the business – These are inexpensive motel rooms, (\$30 for the Scottish Inn on Antoine) far from major sites or business centers in the city.
- Signage – The planned sign is too large for a residential neighborhood.
- Sewage – The addition of 34 toilets at the top of the 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> street sewer line will significantly impact the capacity of the line.
- Parking – Insufficient parking. Overflow parking will be along 30<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Traffic – Yet more traffic for 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Meeting Planned for June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Garden Oaks Elementary:** The next Civic Club meeting will be devoted to this issue. District A Council Member Bruce Tatro will attend. Also, we have invited representatives from City Planning, Signage, Public Works, Traffic, and HPD and hope they will attend and hear citizen concerns.

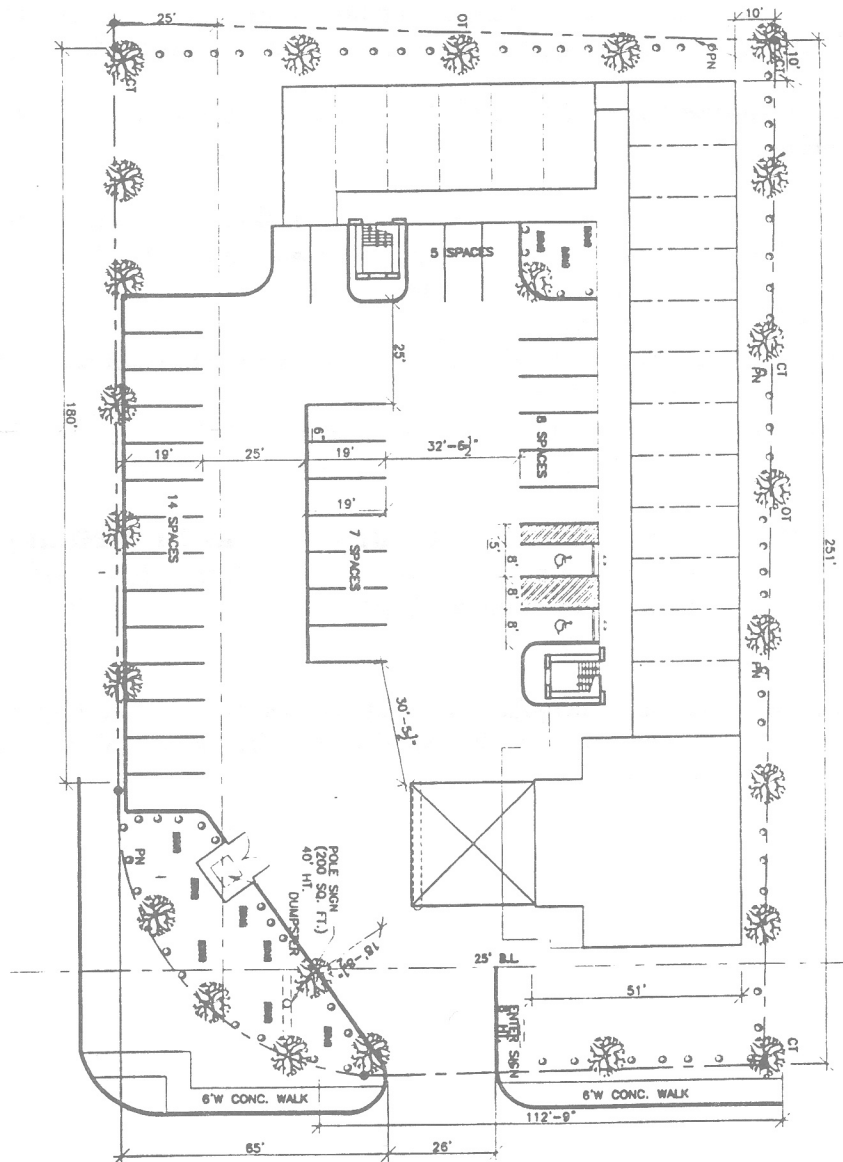
We invite all members of the neighborhood to attend this civic club meeting and voice their concerns. This is not just a "Section 1 problem" but one that may affect home values in the entire neighborhood. Please join us at the meeting.



WEST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION



YALE STREET

Haute Groceries wants to save you money,  
and this is our guarantee.

## When you get supper from Haute Groceries ...



### You save money on your utilities and energy costs!

You don't have to heat up your kitchen, so your electric bills are lower.  
You won't have to drive to the grocery store, so you save money on gas.  
You save money on your water bill because you don't have to clean up and  
you run the dishwasher less often. Is that not a great deal?



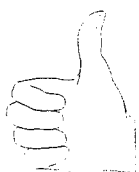
### You save time!

Ever think about what your time is worth? To fix your supper, you have to  
go to the store, and then prepare, cook, and serve your food. Then you have  
to go back into the heat of the kitchen, wash all those dishes and pots and pans,  
and clean up. Order from us and save time.



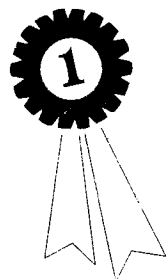
### You get pampered!

We really love to cook. So let us spoil you during the week after  
a long, hard day at work. You deserve it!



### You have input!

We don't want to cook anything that you don't want to buy or eat!  
Tell us what you want us to prepare for you. We'll do our darndest  
to accommodate you. We just don't want to cook the same meals each  
and every day. We want to be excited every day that we cook!



### You have the best!

All we want is that Haute Groceries be your 1st choice when you want  
something great to eat, when you don't want to spend a lot of money, and  
when you want to eat in the comfort of your home without cooking yourself.

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Faxed menu: 713-914-5074  
Main menu: 713-267-0701  
Office: 713-682-6320

Monday - Friday  
3468 Ella at 34th

