

GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 1999

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR CIVIC CLUB OFFICERS

ave you ever found yourself wondering "What are those people thinking?" when it comes to the Civic Club Officers? Well, now's your chance to get off your duff and do something about it. As we roll into the last quarter of the year, it's time once again to decide who will represent you in decisions regarding the neighborhood. Terms begin January 1 and end on December 31, 2000. The slate of officers will be presented at the November 2nd Civic Club meeting and voted on at the December 7th Annual Meeting.

Nominations are currently being sought for the offices of President; 1st Vice President/Membership; 2nd Vice President/Gazette Editor; Secretary and Treasurer. All nominees must be residents of Garden Oaks and dues paying members of the Civic Club. The duties and responsibilities for each position includes:

President: The principal executive officer who supervises and controls all business and affairs of the Civic Club; presides at monthly meetings of the members and quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors; signs, with the Secretary, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, correspondence, etc.; visible representative of any scheduled special events sponsored by the Civic Club; fields phone calls from residents; writes a monthly column for the *Gazette*. Time spent per month fulfilling duties; 8 - 12 hours.

("Nominations" continued on page 9)

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SEPTEMBER CIVIC CLUB MEETING

fter a one month hiatus, (all of you did participate in National Night Out, didn't you?), the Civic Club will reconvene on Tuesday, September 7th at 7:00 PM at the G. O. Elementary School.

One of the items on the agenda will be the formation of an ad hoc Committee to research revised deed restrictions for Garden Oaks. (See the related article below.)

FORMATION OF AD HOC COMMITTEE

Shelly Immel

s reported in the August Gazette, a small group of volunteers has begun work on what to do next about our deed restrictions. So far, we have created a list of possible changes to the deed restrictions. We aren't trying to draft proposed changes now. Instead, we've used this list

("Ad Hoc" continued on page 6)



CIVIC CLUB OFFICERS

President: James Flowers, 3213 Lawrence (713) 862-6593 VP/Membership: David Bell, 855 Azalea (713) 694-5016 VP/*Gazette* Editor: Robert De Veau, 974 W 42nd (713) 686-6012

Treasurer: Jay Slemmer, 733 W 38th (713) 695-7953 Secretary: Felicia Adams, 336 W 34th (713) 869-1784

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Beautification: Ed & Brenda de Alba (713) 694-5934 Citizen's on Patrol: Carl Waters, Jr. (713) 864-1992

e-mail: GOCop77018@ool.com

Constable Pragram: Karl Engelmann (713) 861-1978

Sam Mehta (713) 880-0720

Garden Club: Janice Walden (713) 869-6534

Home & Garden Tour: Meredith Jenkins (713) 697-5654 Hospitality & Refreshments: Terry Jeanes (713) 680-8550

Programs: Terry Jeanes (713) 680-8550

EDITOR'S CORNER



left for work with the house looking as it always has. I returned home to find the beaded pine boards in the living room painted over with primer and a stack of paint

chips in an assortment of greens. The Other Half and I were about to travel down that dangerous road once again... picking a paint color we can both live with. Some of you may recall our adventures back in March when we tried to find a suitable yellow for the walls in the breakfast nook and kitchen. That was a small project compared to what we were about to undergo, because once the living room received a fresh coat of paint that could only mean one thing—the dining room, the hallway, the guestroom/den and the office would all have to painted as well.

The beaded pine boards cover two of the four walls in the living room. In addition, our entire family room in the back of the house is also paneled with the same pine boards. Admittedly, it was more wood paneling than either of us could live with. But painting over all that paneling? The task just seemed daunting to say the least. There was no backing out now however. The Other Half is no fool, he had it all figured out. The wood had already been primed so there was no turning back, no putting off the task and no avoiding the dreaded color selection process.

Haze Green. Chinois. Jungle River. Silver Moss. Peyote. Middlestone. Silk Cypress. Salted Ash. Oregano. Shagbark. Light

Olive. Olive Tree. Light Lichen. Willow River. Arkansas Green. These are colors I'm suppose to pick from? Who sits around thinking up these names anyway? Whatever happened to just plain Green? I have to admit the Other Half has come a long way in the 14 years we have been together. Back then, the Other Half's idea of using color was painting with off white, trimmed with bright white. Now, the Other Half is boldly going with COLOR. I, on the other hand, lack the vision to see beyond a 2 inch chip of paint and envision what an entire room will look like in whatever color we pick. So I let the Other Half make the decision and write the check for the home warehouse. It's a tough job but someone has to do it.

The living room is finished and the dining room has also been painted. What colors you ask? Well the living room is Haze Green and the Dining Room is Jungle River. That's a pale green and a dark green to everyone else out there. The trim has also been painted, bright white. Even I know when to concede a little to the Other Half. Of course, we still have to pick a color and a style for the window treatments as they remain bare. But it gives everyone passing by a great view of the newly painted rooms, both visible from the street, without much effort, if you're ever driving by.

The next painting project is the guest room. How does Melon Kiss, Ruby Blush, Cranberry Mist or Princess Pearl grab you? I think I'll grab another mug of Colombian Roast and ponder those paint chips a while longer.

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The *Gazette* is the afficial publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published on a monthly basis. Submission deadline is the 6th of each month for publication the next month. Publication of any article does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club or its' Officers and are solely the apinion of the author.



PRESIDENT FLOWERS

ational Night Out was a huge success! I left my home at 6:30 with intentions of visiting most - if not all - block parties. At 10:30, I left my last party, and I know I did not get to visit everyone. Some had themes, some a variety of food and drinks, and some had entertainment brought in for the evening. I had a great time visiting with all of the residents I met. The food and entertainment were all great. Best of all, I saw so many people that I had not met in the past and that do not attend the monthly civic meetings. Most of them were new residents to Garden Oaks. I had so many people ask me questions regarding a variety of issues concerning the neighborhood and could not answer all of them in the amount of time I had that evening. Thanks to all of the neighbors who opened their homes for this special event.

Please use the new online chat room that Robert De Veau and Mark Folk are responsible for organizing. You can join by going to http://www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/Houston_GO. I have been peeking in to see what people are discussing. Often, a resident of Garden Oaks in that chat room can answer most of the questions that you have. Of course, not all of the answers you get will be reliable. Many may simply be the opinions of the author. You can post notifications of garage sales or other items that you may wish to sell. You can find out if someone has a tool you can borrow. You can even post a job opening you may have. This is a great resource for all of you to use.

I usually get five to seven phone calls/messages a week from concerned neighbors regarding issues that directly impact them in some way. The first question I have in response to their concern is, "Are you a member of the Civic Club?" The response, eight out of ten times, is "No". They are usually insistent that something be done immediately to halt what they are concerned about. They are usually bewildered as to how the Civic Club could vote on an issue which impacts their property. They sometimes want to know why I am not

CIVIC CLUB OFFICERS E-MAIL CONTACTS

President: James Flowers VP/Membership: David Bell VP/*Gazette:* Robert De Veau

Treasurer: Jay Slemmer Secretary: Felicia Adams iflowers@chapman-schewe.com
David_B_Bell@comerica.com
GOGazette@aol.com
benslem@msn.com
felicia.adams@parke-davis.com

out knocking on doors to find out what residents want. They often question beautification projects and other funds being spent in Garden Oaks. They always say they are just too busy to attend the monthly meeting or they hate the bickering that goes on at these type meetings. People, come on, the meeting offers baby sitting, refreshments, and I always end the meeting promptly at 8:30. Spend the \$20 and join the Civic Club. Attend just one meeting a month in the evening. Come voice your concerns at the meeting and ask all the questions you want. I always try to keep bickering out of it!!

Hope to see you Tuesday, September 7th.

HOME TOUR 2000 TAKING SHAPE

Meredith Jenkins, Chair

fter a brief respite from this year's successful Home and Garden Tour, the committee has already begun working on next year's event. As you read this, we will have had one committee chairperson's meeting and the Selection Committee will have been out twice looking at prospective homes. A very impressive start for the 2000 Home and Garden Tour. But just because the worker bees have been busy in the hive, doesn't mean it's to late for you to join the committee. There are plenty of volunteer positions available.

A major difference this year is the way our committee system will be structured. Rather than bringing all the volunteers together every month, each Committee Chairperson will meet separately with their own committee members and the Chairs will meet monthly together as a group to give a progress report. Your level of commitment will depend greatly on the committee you choose to volunteer with. Following is a list of the committees. If one or more of these is of interest you, feel free to contact me at home (713) 697-5654 or via email at C62KMJ@oag.state.tx.us and plan to attend the informational meeting on Monday, September 27th at 7:00 PM which will be held at 1335 Sue Barnett.

Command Center Committee. Chair: Dian Austin

- Secures a location for ticket sales and ticket redemption for Tour day
- Coordinates the set-up of the center
- Secures items to be used at command center
- Works with Transportation Committee

("Home Tour" continued on page 7)







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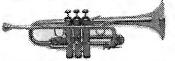


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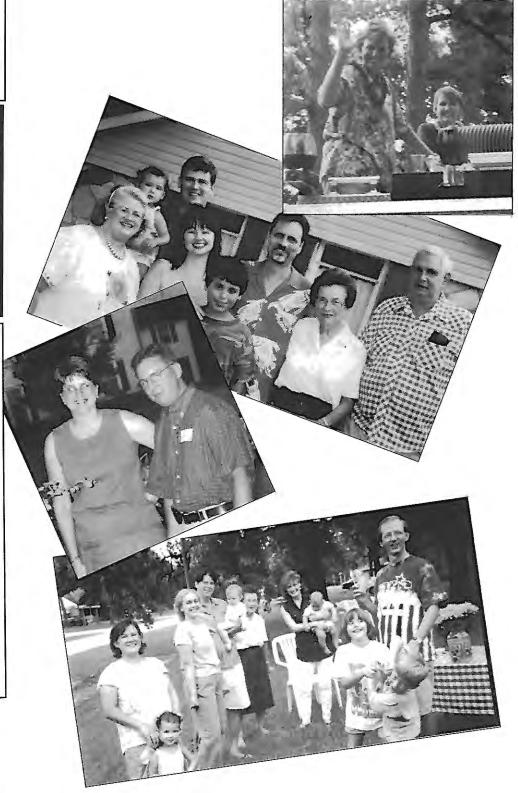
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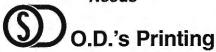
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("Ad Hoc" continued from page 1)

of items to draft a survey. The survey will give every property owner in Garden Oaks the chance to tell us what they think about specific deed restriction items that could be changed. We plan to publish the survey as an insert in the October Gazette. We also plan to distribute it via email to everyone signed up on the Houston GO mailing list. (See details below.)

So far this work has been done by an informal, unofficial working group made up of concerned volunteers from the neighborhood. We have not been affiliated with either the Board of Trustees or with the Civic Club. However, in the September 7th meeting, we'll propose that the Civic Club form a committee on deed restrictions. (There wasn't an August Civic Club meeting, so this is our first chance to become "official" since we started our work at the end of July.)

We'll propose that the purpose of this Civic Club committee be to gather information about deed restriction changes people do or don't want, use that information to draft proposed deed restriction updates, and then organize the neighborhood vote on the proposed updates. This committee can take over the work done so far and carry it forward. There will be room on the committee for anyone who wants to participate. There is also a great need for volunteers in other roles such as block captains.

One point I want to emphasize is that you do not have to agree with others in this group (or later, on this committee) on each item in the deed restrictions. This group was formed to gather information about what all Garden Oaks property owners want to do with regard to the deed restrictions. Whether you're in the majority or the minority, everyone gets a vote. We know that people will have varying and sometimes conflicting opinions. But we still need everyone's help if we're going to succeed in our efforts to get appropriate updates drafted and voted in.

If you'd like to help, we'd love to have you. PLEASE CALL US TO VOLUN-TEER at (713) 341-3737. You can hear the latest news and then leave a message on the Deed Restriction Action Hotline. Or you can email godeed@ev1.net (Thank you to the people who have already volunteered!)

If you have an email account, you can keep in touch with your neighbors on this and other topics in a more interactive way—you can sign up on the Houston GO mailing list. It is "a moderated discussion of issues and current events of interest to residents of the Garden Oaks subdivisions in Houston, Texas." The list is free and easy to join. Just go to http://www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/Houston GO.

Please come to the September 7th Civic Club meeting to hear the latest news and help determine what we as a community will do next about our deed restrictions.



("Home Tour" continued from page 3)

Communications Committee. Chair: Rebecca Stark

- Secures Information Hotline
- Updates message on Hotline
- Returns phone calls from Hotline
- Calls committee members to remind them of meetings

Concessions Committee. Chair: Craig Lee

- Solicits donations of concessions for Sponsor Party and Tour
- Coordinates delivery of concessions to locations on Tour day
- Secures recycling bins, coolers and trash cans to be used for Tour

Docent Scripts Committee. Chair: Mike Caldwell

- Interviews home and garden owners for information to be included in the docent "script"
- Writes and prepares docent scripts
- Writes descriptive copy for each home and garden for PR committee

Finance Committee. Co-Chairs: Lynn Sievers and Susan Saranie

- Prepares budget for Home & Garden Tour
- Provides monthly reports to Committee and Civic Club treasurer
- Collects all money from pre-sales, sponsors, raffle sales, donations, etc.
- Works closely with Civic Club Treasurer to ensure reimbursement and payment of invoices

Floral Arrangements Committee. Chair: Susan Simpson

- Solicits and secures florists to donate arrangements for Tour Homes and Sponsor Party
- Coordinates with Tour homeowners and florists design meetings

Graphics & Printing Committee. Chair: Janice Stollenwerck

- Designs all printed materials for Home & Garden Tour
- Presents graphic ideas to committee for approval
- Solicits bids for print materials
- Works closely with printer to ensure deadlines are met and material delivered

Publicity Committee. Chair: Barry Skipton

- Writes and distributes all press releases
- Maintains Clip book of all published pieces
- Provides updates to Gazette

Raffle/Silent Auction Committee. Co-Chairs: Tina Rowe and Sheila Briones

- Solicits all items to be donated for the Silent Auction and Raffle
- Picks up items which have been donated
- Prepares Donor list for publicity
- Determines packages for Silent Auction with minimum bids
- Arranges for Raffle items to be on display at Command Center on Tour day
- Notifies winners of Raffle prizes

Set-Up Committee. Chair: To Be Determined

- Coordinates the set-up of homes on Tour day
- Assembles the set-up kits for each location
- Works with set-up team to set-up and dismantle each Tour home and Command Center
- Secures tables, chairs, easels, tents and other items needed for each Tour location
- Inventories all supplies kept in storage and maintains the storage unit

Staffing/Volunteer Committee: Chair: Rohert De Veau

- Ohtains all volunteers needed for Tour day (Docents, House Captains, Greeters, Ticket Takers, Shuttle Bus Assistants, Concession Sales, Runners) and staffs each accordingly
- Prepares volunteer info packets for distribution
- Distributes complimentary t-shirt and tour ticket to each volunteer
- Prepares volunteer list for each site and provides to House Captains
- Maintains volunteer database

("Home Tour" continued on page 10)



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GOCOP REPORT

Carl Waters, Jr.

y goodness where has the year gone! It seems like just a couple of months ago we were starting the new year and now we are quickly closing in on the end of this one. As this article arrives at your home the neighborhood children will have been back in school for two weeks. Please keep this in mind as you head out to work in the morning and back home in the evening.

Congratulations to new patrollers Steve and Edie Abby and Amanda and Robert Carlin. They completed COP training in July and hit the streets in August. Amanda and Robert had the dubious honor of coming across a neighbor having a problem with an unwanted party at her front door and spent their first night on patrol following the individual until he got on a Metro bus going south on Shepherd. Numerous calls to 911 went apparently unanswered. I am looking into that with HPD North Command staff.

In June patrollers and bases operators spent 51 3/4 hours on duty in the neighborhood.

COP is always looking for more volunteers. If you would like to join us training classes are offered at the North Command Station, 9455 West Montgomery Rd. twice a month. A day time training is offered on the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. and an evening session is held on the fourth Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

June Crime Statistics (5)

Robbery (2)

3000 block of N. Shepherd on June 18th at 7:00 p.m. (Public Street) 900 block of W. 42nd St. on June 25th at 11:30 p.m. (Public Street)

Burglary (3)

200 block of W. 34th St. on June 12th at 11:28 a.m. (Garage) 3000 block of N. Shepherd June 19th at 3:30 p.m. (Garage)

900 block of Althea - June 21st at 5:00 p.m. (Residential Out Building). I had never heard this one before but believe it was a storage shed.





("Nominations" continued from page 1)

1st VP/Membership: In the absence of the President will perform the duties of the President. Responsible for the recruitment of new members; maintenance of membership database; reconciliation of dues payments with the Treasurer; produce monthly membership report; distribution of new resident Welcome Packages and other duties as assigned by the President or Board of Directors. Time spent per month fulfilling duties: 4 - 6 hours.

2nd VP/Gazette Editor: Responsible for the monthly production of the Garden Oaks Gazette; serve as committee and neighborhood liaison; performs other duties as assigned by the President or Board of Directors. Must have access to a computer and knowledge of a page layout program (Macintosh or PC). Fax/scanner included. Time spent per month fulfilling duties: 10 - 15 hours.

Treasurer: Responsible for all funds and securities; receives and gives receipts for monies due and payable; performs bank deposits and account reconciliation; produces annual budget for publication in the Gazette; produces monthly Treasurer's Report to be given at Civic Club meetings; works closely with all committees. Time spent per month fulfilling duties: 4 - 6 hours.

Secretary: Keeps the minutes of monthly Civic Club Meetings (to be published in the Gazette) and of the Board of Directors quarterly meetings in one or more books provided for that purpose. Gives all notices in accordance with the provisions of the bylaws; custodian of the Civic Club records and the seal. Time spent per month fulfilling duties: 2 - 4 hours.

The time spent on each of these positions is very minimal but the rewards are great. If you are interested in serving as an officer of the Civic Club or if you have any further questions, please feel free to call the current officers (their names and phone numbers can be found on page 2) or let President James Flowers know of your interest in being nominated for a position. The Nominating Committee members will be announced at the September Civic Club Meeting.



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SEPTEMBER GARDENING GUIDE

Tina Sabuco

eptember is a great time for landscaping. There's less going on, you can reliable nursery help more easily and the weather is delightful. Has the August heat beaten your garden into submission? Don't despair! Begin your fall landscaping projects. Trees and shrubs planted this month will be well established by spring's growing season.

Dig and divide established daffodils and other spring bulbs early in the month. Transplant fall perennials including "garden" chrysanthemums, fall asters and Salvia leucantha from nursery pots. Wildflowers should be sown this month into weed-free roto-tilled soil. Spring perennials such as daylilies, iris, shasta daisies, coneflowers and gloriosa daisies can be trimmed lightly, then dug and divided late this month.

Root-prune wisteria to promote better bud set. Cut lateral roots 8 to 12 inches deep in ring 18 to 24 inches from the trunk. Root-prune established trees and shrubs you intend to move this winter, to allow them time to establish new roots within their eventual soil balls. Do not attempt to cut tap roots at this time. Re-shape shrubs to correct erratic summer growth. Remove dead and damaged limbs from landscape plants. Hire an aborist as needed to correct difficult problems. Groom your perennial garden to remove foliage browned by the summer. Trim houseplants that are spending the summer outdoors to reshape them before their return inside.



This will be the last chance to apply iron and sulfur to correct yellowed foliage on iron-deficient plants such as wisteria, dogwoods, azaleas, camellias, ligustrums, hollies and others. Keep iron products off surfaces that could be stained. Apply a 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 ratio lawn food for the last feeding of your turf. This is the

most important feeding of the entire growing season. Apply high-phosphate bud-setting fertilizer (unless soil tests indicate otherwise)to spring-flowering shrubs, vines and trees. Keep those patio pots and hanging baskets growing actively in fall's improving conditions by applying 20-20-20 water-soluble fertilizer with each watering.

("Home Tour" continued from page 7)

Ticket Sales/Poster Distribution Committee. Chair: Sandy Altman

- Secures locations for pre-sale of Tour tickets
- Coordinates delivery of Tour posters to locations throughout Houston
- Coordinates delivery of tickets to pre-sale locations, maintains ticket supplies and collects unsold tickets and funds from each location
- Coordinates and staffs Pre-Sale ticket outlet at local Kroger for two week-ends prior to Tour

Transportation & Traffic Committee. Chair: Ed de Alba

- Obtains bids for shuttle buses
- Secures police/constables for traffic control on Tour day
- Determines shuttle route though neighborhood
- Trains shuttle drivers and shuttle assistants

Underwriting/Fundraising Committee. Chair: To Be Determined

- Solicits underwriters for Tour
- Provides list to Graphics Committee and Publicity Committee
- Receives checks from underwriters and delivers to committee treasurer
- Coordinates receipt of advertising material from underwriters

If you would like to volunteer for any of these committees, please join us on Monday, September 7th at 1335 Sue Barnett. All volunteers will receive a complimentary ticket to the Home & Garden Tour and a commemorative t-shirt. If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please feel free to call me at (713) 697-5654. And don't forget to mark your calendars for Sunday, April 30th for the 2000 Home and Garden Tour. It's an event you won't want to miss!



WELCOME AT-HOME-MOTHERS

he MOMS Club Of Near Northwest Houston invites you to attend an Open House on Wednesday, September 8th from 9:30 - 11:30 AM at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on 2003 W 43rd Street.

The MOMS Club is a National nonprofit support group specifically for mothers who have chosen to stay home with their children. We have hundreds of chapters across the country and we are inviting you to visit our chapter here!

Local chapters plan monthly meetings with interesting speakers and discussions, park playdays, special outings for mothers and their children, family holiday parties, and activity groups like playgoups, book club, and monthly MOMS Night Out. Children are welcome at all of our activities!

For more information or to RSVP for the open house, call any of the following club members: Deborah (713) 869-8723, Amy (713) 466-6663, Rhonda (281) 859-5813, Terah (713) 862-5896 or Maria (281) 531-4940 or send an e-mail to us at Momsclubnwh@ivillage.com.

2000 BUDGET REQUESTS

Jay Slemmer, Treasurer

t's time for everyone to sharpen your pencils and put on your thinking caps. Budget requests for fiscal year 2000 will be due by October 1. This a change from previous years so please take note. The budget is to be presented at the November Civic Club meeting, published in the November Gazette and voted on at the December Annual Meeting.

All committee chairs will need to submit a budget comprised of anticipated revenues and expenses for the coming fiscal year to me in writing. If you have any questions, or need assistance in producing your budget, please feel free to call me at (713) 695-7953 or e-mail me at benslem@msn.com.

A copy of the financial report as of June 30th is included in this issue of the *Gazette*.

1999 BUDGET YEAR TO DATE

As of June 30

As of June 30	
INCOME	
Gazette	\$4,793.75
Beautification	509.75
Home Tour	19,410.31
Membership	10,771.00
GO COP	0.00
Garden Club	0.00
Montessori	0.00
Spring Fling	1,419.00
Computer Rebate	50.00
Interest - Chase Bank	48.06
Interest-D.W.	214.31
TOTAL INCOME	\$37,216.18
EXPENSES	
Gazette	\$3,524.51
Beautification	5,267.26
Home Tour	7,836.60
Membership	389.00
Monthly Meetings	78.34
Citizens on Patrol	16.39
Executive	80.57
Constable Program	1,340.00
Garden Club	0.00
Montessori	0.00
Spring Fling	600.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$19,119.14
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$18,097.04



HEAVY TRASH

1st Tuesday Sections 1 & 1A

2nd Tuesday Sections 2 - 5 South of West 41st St.

3rd Tuesday Sections 2 - 5 North of West 41st St.

RECYCLING

1st and 3rd Tuesday North of West 43rd St.

2nd and 4th Tuesday South of West 43rd St.

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SEPTEMBER EVENTS

7th: Givic Club Meeting, 7:00 PM G.O. Elementary School

9th: Garden Club, 7:00 PM Call for location 713-869-6534

27th: Home Tour Committee, 7:00 PM 1335 Sue Barnett

September 1999

		1	2	3	4
- 1	_			M 1 - 0	
	7	8	9	10	11
oor Day	Civic Club Meeting 7:00 PM		Garden Club 7:00 PM		Rosh Hashanah
	14	15	16	17	18
-1)					
	21	22	23	24	25
m Kippur	-		Autumn Begins		
	28	29	30		
me Tour mmittee)0 PM				"When bo	
	n Kippur me Tour mmittee	14 21 m Kippur 28 me Tour mmittee	14 15 21 22 m Kippur 28 29 me Tour mmittee	14 15 16 21 22 23 n Kippur 28 29 30 me Tour mmittee	14 15 16 17 21 22 23 24 n Kippur 28 29 30 me Tour mmittee 0 PM

"When bounteous autumn rears her head, he joys to pull the ripened pear."

—Dryden

We're back in school and we're hungry! Order supper from Haute Groceries!



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Delicious, nutritious gourmet suppers for you to take home.



3468 Ella 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

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