



August 2020

Volume 42 Issue 8

Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

Welcome to Garden Oaks!

Dian Austin & Tina Rowe, Membership Committee

The Garden Oaks Civic Club (GOCC) would like to personally welcome all new residents to the neighborhood.

Back in February, the GOCC held its first "Meet & Greet" Social Hour of this year at Wakefield Crowbar. We had about 35 residents attend, and it was a nice way to visit with and meet new neighbors. We had plans to have quarterly social events, and then COVID-19 showed up.

So, how best to engage with new residents? Information is available online at our website, gardenoaks.org, under the "New N'bers" tab at the top of the page. There you can find an online Welcome Packet, which includes a brief history of the neighborhood, along with information about the Civic Club, the Constable Program, the heavy trash/garbage schedule from the City, and information about deed restrictions.

While the website gives access to information, it's still lacking the personal touch. Ideally, we'd like to have a friendly GO neighbor meet with each new resident and welcome them to Garden Oaks. And that's exactly what longtime Section 1 resident Tina Rowe has offered to head up: **The Official Garden Oaks Welcoming Committee.**

For a Welcome Committee to be successful, Tina needs two volunteers for each of the five Garden Oaks sections to assist with delivery of the hard copy Welcome Packets shortly after a new resident moves in. During this Covid time, we would definitely practice social distancing as we ring the doorbell, step back from the door, and provide a friendly "Welcome to Garden Oaks," and answer any questions that the new residents might have.

And once it's safe to gather again, we'll be resuming the planned Social Hours at various venues around the neighborhood, in addition to continue to deliver Welcome Packets in person.

If you'd like to help welcome folks to our great neighborhood, please email membership@gardenoaks.org. Only friendly folks need to apply...

All Garden Oaks Civic Club activities are on hold.

Please keep an eye on social media channels and future *Gazettes* for updates. We won't be doing anything until Stay Home and Social Distancing orders are lifted. Neither should you.

And please wear your mask when you can't socially distance. Governor's orders!



Constable Statistics

June 2020

Data are provided monthly for our contract with the Harris County Precinct One Constable deputy who patrols Garden Oaks. The number of responses is shown for each category.

The deputies are following CDC guidelines and social distancing on the street as well as in the office. The deputies are equipped with PPE so you may see them wearing masks. They need to avoid exposure and then a forced 14-day quarantine. Please help keep the deputies safe.

Accident Minor – 1
 Alarm – 2
 Burglary Other – 1
 Check Park/School/Business/Church – 38
 Contract Check – 195
 Discharge Firearms – 1
 Disturbance Loud Noise – 1
 Information Call – 3
 Meet the Citizen – 28
 Property Found Lost – 1
 Solicitors – 1
 Special Assignment – 1
 Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 1
 Theft Other – 1
 Traffic Hazard – 3
 Traffic Stops – 1
 Vacation Watch – 12
 Vehicle Abandoned – 1
 Writ – 1

Civic Club Officers

President – Tonya Knauth 713 396 0876
 986 Gardenia president@gardenoaks.org

Vice President – Kevin David 713 686 5903
 826 Azalea vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Treasurer – Jeff Martin 713 825 1768
 710 West 39th treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Secretary – Adam Pryor 281 682 0061
 1554 Sue Barnett secretary@gardenoaks.org

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 beautification@gardenoaks.org

Citizen Patrol – Mark Saranie 713 724 1271
 235 West 33rd gocop@gardenoaks.org

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

Back-to-School 2020

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

Houston ISD students and teachers will continue online learning through mid-October. All students will begin the school year virtually when classes begin September 8. Online instruction will continue for six weeks through October 16, according to Interim Superintendent Dr. Lathan. If a parent has chosen to enroll their child in the PK tuition program, services will also be provided online for the first six weeks of the school year. Tuition may be sent via online payment or sent by check to the school address (901 Sue Barnett, Houston, TX 77018). If your family's economic status has changed, please email to complete new paperwork to possibly qualify for the free, subsidized PK program.

How does online instruction work? Students work on the computer with teachers in real-time, face-to-face lessons for part of the day. These lessons are recorded and stored for students to access should they wish to revisit the lesson or if they are not able to attend the session at the scheduled time. Students are expected to participate in the lesson when they are in the face-to-face session and do have assignments to complete independently. Lessons are delivered via Microsoft Teams within the HISD secure platform. Students log-in with their unique student ID and submit their assignments through HISD's HUB - another secure platform where teachers are able to access the submissions and provide feedback to students. Additionally, online resources are provided to students to extend learning including Imagine Learning for reading and math, Khan Academy, Vocabulary.com, and Nessy for students identified with Dyslexia and reading challenges.

Parents and supportive adults are essential to students' success! While the parent-child-school partnership has always been important, the current online learning platform relies heavily on home involvement and support. HISD has developed courses for parents to enhance this partnership and to ensure that parents are able to navigate the online platforms and resources. Log on to the HISD website at houstonisd.org and register for the sessions in the language of your choice.

At Garden Oaks, we will have work underway in the Spark Park while students are away. We are very fortunate to receive a re-SPARK project approval! This will include soccer goals, a new net on the tennis court, additional fencing near the generator, relocation and upgrade of the backstop, walking path resurfacing and re-routing, drainage remediation and additional benches. Thanks to Ms. Ownby of the City of Houston Spark Park program that partners with local schools to provide substantial funding and to our parents and staff of the Garden Oaks PTO who have raised \$15,000 for this project!

Until we meet again face-to-face, stay healthy and happy!!!



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Dispatch 713-755-7628
All Other City Services 311

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

As we start August, it is even more important to keep your eyes and ears open. If you see something that doesn't seem right, please call Constable Dispatch first before heading to social media. 713-755-7628.

Reminder: We now have one full time deputy patroller for 40 hours of dedicated patrol per week.

The Constable Program is a program supported by volunteer payments. We need the support of as many households as possible. Fully paid supporter dues are \$250 for the year.

This year, the annual Constable Program fundraiser, the Garden Oaks Wine Walk, has been cancelled due to COVID-19. As there will be no fundraiser, contributions from neighborhood residents are even more important to keep our deputy patrolling. There are options for monthly payments, a single one-time payment, or recurring annual payments. You may pay online at gardenoaks.org or via the insert in each month's *Gazette*.

Together we can make a difference. There is *no mandatory fee* collected to help pay for the Constable Program.

Thank you to the 332 program supporters as of July 15th who paid \$250 or more annually. If your name is missing, please consider contributing.

Pay your dues today. Why wait until you become a crime victim before contributing?

Become a Constable Program Supporter: gardenoaks.org

Constable Dispatch: 713-755-7628

Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/crime-alerts/>

Vacation Watch: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>

Mark your calendars for National Night Out – Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

Start thinking about those small scaled gatherings, socially-distanced as deemed appropriate.

If you are interested in assisting with some alternate smaller scale fundraising options for the Constable Program this year, please email Constable@gardenoaks.org.

Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We look forward to seeing you at a civic club meeting soon.

955 Althea	975 Althea	4203 Apollo	1543 Sue Barnett
203 West 31st	308 West 32nd	323 West 32nd	415 West 32nd
813 West 32nd	307 West 33rd	705 West 34th	

Happy Birthday

Mark Sarmiento 3rd	Elizabeth Klein 4th	Katherine Knauth 4th
Avery T. 5th	Rick Knauth 9th	Tony Padon 23rd
Isabella R. 23rd	Trent Salch 23rd	Mary Beck 24th
Bridgette Martinez 26th	Emma Kathryn C. 28th	Debbie Padon 28th
Gretchen Dreher 29th	Carl Waters 29th	

Happy Anniversary

Pat Buron & Shelley Rogers 5th
Margarita Barcenas & Kevin Klotz 23rd

Congratulations to Peyton Murphy on her first Holy Communion.

Out and About

Carl Waters and Leslie Ryan had some social distancing time in Port A.

The Weltin Boys Summer Adventure 2020 version included the Famous Blue Whale on Rt 66 in Oklahoma, the world's largest ball of twine located in Kansas, a visit to Palo Duro Canyon, the Cadillac Ranch, Dinosaur National Monument Utah, Salt Lake City, Yellowstone National Park & Grand Teton National Park, National Museum Wildlife Art - Shoshone Falls in Twin Falls, Idaho, the Badlands of South Dakota, Mt. Rushmore, and much much more. It's always one of my favorites to see what the summer holds for the traveling trio.

Lucy McLean flew from Dallas to Panama City with Pilot "Uncle" Brian. Lucy's been busy studying, doing day and night flights with her dad **Sean**, and working on her air traffic control communication. Her Senior pictures had a great aviation theme to them as well.

The Sherbers had some hangout time in Round Top. **Caroline Stender** spent some time in Cat Springs. **Terry Jeanes** along with her mom had some social distance time in Green Bay, Wisconsin. A big time was had by **the Dilleys, the Cracknells, and the Theriots** at Lake Hamilton. **Marisa Zindler and daughter Alex** had a great time at their annual Mother Daughter trip; this time it was to the Mayan Ranch in Bandera Texas with plenty of social distancing outdoors with horseback riding, cowboy breakfast, campfires, and more. It was Manitou Springs, CO for the **Martin family**.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13th of the month to Terry Jeanes at terry@terryjeanes.com.



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Pam Parks

Good things started happening on Garden Oaks Boulevard earlier this summer when one of the neighbors took on the job of power washing about 200 bollards that line both sides of the esplanade. Section 2 neighbors kicked in \$450 for mulching and for work on the bollards. In mid-July, members of the Tatum family made a hard push to reset the downed bollards, and they made several new ones to fill in gaps. Over the next few weeks the power washing will be completed, and a coat of sealer/stain will be applied. These bollards have given good service for many years but are probably in the last few years of serviceable life. This project both improves the looks but also will postpone the need to completely replace them.

The irrigation system has also gotten some attention. There has been replacement of broken heads, installation of head collars, and a reset of timings. We are going to replace a portion of a main supply line which was damaged when one of the trees fell.

Near term, our park captains Shana Tatum and Jonathan Morgan are planning for a work day in the September/October time frame for pruning and weeding.

Volunteers wishing to pitch in on work projects in the parks are invited to contact Pam at beautification@gardenoaks.org.



Citizen Patrol

Mark Saranie, Program Chair

There is very little to report this month. Crime surrounding the neighborhood remains somewhat high but very low in Garden Oaks proper. Additional patrol team members will aid in visibility and crime deterrence. The lower constable presence due to loss of one of our patrol deputies calls for this.

The latest update regarding certification for new citizen patrol team members, and those requiring recertification, is that plans are underway to achieve this via Zoom meetings. I'll provide more about this when details are available. Anyone interested may download the application form at gardenoaks.org (under the security tab) and forward to me. Requirements are few: that you be at least 18 years old, live in Garden Oaks, and can pass a background check.

Crime reports for June 2020

June 13, 11 am, 700 block W. 41st – Breaking and Entering

June 15, 11 am, 900 block W. 43rd – Simple assault

June 18, 2 am, 500 block W. 31st – Breaking and Entering

June 19th, 5 pm, 500 block W. 30th – Theft from vehicle

Reported patrol hours for June – 14

Emergency Numbers

Crimes in progress, fire, or ambulance	911
HPD (Non-Emergency)	713-884-3131
Precinct One Constable Dispatch	713-755-7628
All Other City Services	311

A color version of the *Gazette* is published each month at the Garden Oaks web site, gardenoaks.org. You can download past issues as well as find contact information and pay for ads.

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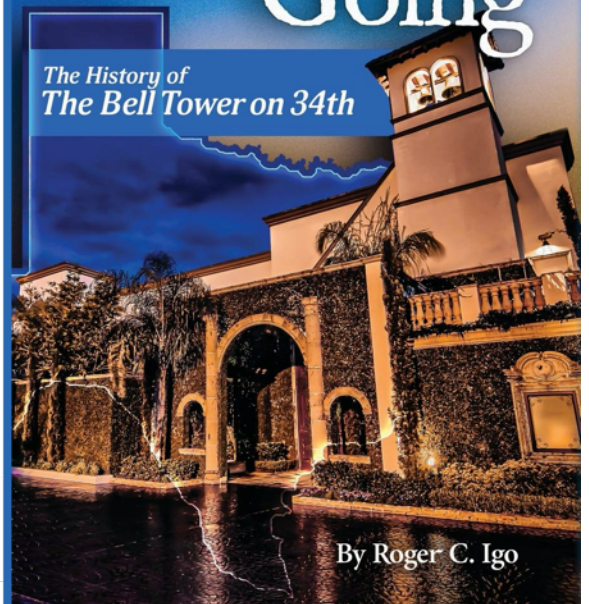


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By Roger C. Igo



2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT

January – December

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 year.

Fill in Amount:

\$ _____ Basic Membership **\$40** (\$20 for Seniors 65+)

\$ _____ Community Household Membership **\$100**

\$ _____ Business Membership (Non-Voting) **\$100**

\$ _____ 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 payment.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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Constable Patrol Dues Statement for 2020

[] New Member or [] Renewal

Property Address: _____

Do you need a GO Constable Supporter sign or a 2020 sticker (indicate which)? _____

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

Member 1 Information

Name: _____

Email: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Member 2 Information

Name: _____

Email: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

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Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

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Payment Options (Checks made payable to GOCC)

[] Enclosed is the minimum requested payment of \$250 for 2020.

[] I/We cannot contribute \$250 but are enclosing a check for \$ _____.

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[] Please accept my additional gift of \$ _____ for the year to help a neighbor on fixed income.

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Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

Hopefully by the time of this article we will be well past the peak of COVID-19 cases, and we will be able to return to making the market a Saturday destination again. I have purchased enough tablecloths to change them out three times between seatings of close-knit family groups in the hopes of allowing y'all to linger awhile. Although with the August heat, you may not want to linger too long, but that option will be available.

I've had numerous requests from prepared food vendors wanting to come to our market and I'm going to set up a rotating booth that will change weekly if they are agreeable. Be sure and follow our new Facebook page each week to keep up with the changes. It's "The Farmstand of Greater Heights". Or you can also follow us on Instagram @garden_oaks_market. Also by the time of this article, Monica and Michael of Russo and Sons Artisan Pasta and Sauce will have rejoined the line up along with Mariana and Carlos of 109 Coffee.

Since we're at least two months from the end of summer on the Texas Gulf Coast, I'm thinking of adding another cold beverage option, non-alcoholic of course. A few

years back I paired up with a local kombucha maker and am wondering if they're still around. If not, I'll seek out another. Although I'd love to think beer and wine are great at rehydrating us, I know from experience that's not true. And I wouldn't want to take any business away from neighbors on the street who have struggled through these trying times.

Meanwhile at the farm, Cathy's egg producers (the hens) have probably succumbed to the heat, and egg production will have dropped, so please bear with her if the supply runs out early in the day. August is always an interesting time as summer crops begin to play out with the exception of okra, peppers, and a few others. Fall crops are just beginning to be planted and very dependent on just the right conditions to prosper, including a little rain, but not a lot.

If I haven't said it enough, let me thank y'all once again for your continued support during the shutdown; and to those who discovered our little market during this time, a hearty welcome to the club is due. With all of your help, we shall continue and come week after week and serve the surrounding neighborhoods.

As always, "Come soon, come often, and thank you, thank you, thank you."

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Keep Your Cool

Mitch Weigand

Now that high temperatures are the norm, we depend on A/C systems to keep us comfortable. Here are some tips to help keep your home system running smoothly.

(1) Schedule an A/C check-up now, if you haven't already done so. This is the most important tip I can offer. During a check-up, the freon level, drain pan, compressor, condensing coil, evaporator coil, filter, thermostat, and wiring will all be inspected and any minor mechanical issues will be fixed. This helps prevent most problems and maintains your A/C system at its peak operating efficiency.

(2) Replace your A/C filter every month. A clean air filter protects from dust, pollen, and other airborne contaminants. A clogged filter makes the compressor work much harder and shortens its lifespan.

(3) Have realistic expectations for your indoor temperature. The standard in the HVAC industry is 20 degrees maximum difference between outdoor and indoor temperatures. When it's 95 degrees outside, probably the coolest your house will get is 75 degrees.

You are lucky if your system can lower it more.

(4) Purchase a programmable thermostat and use it! Program the thermostat to raise your home's temperature after you leave and lower the temperature before you return. You can ease the load on the A/C system by setting the thermostat to the highest temperature that you're comfortable with and rely on other fans. They help keep you cool by evaporating moisture on your skin.

(5) Keep the outside condenser unit clear of debris. Plants and lawn debris can build up around the outdoor condenser unit, restricting airflow. Use your garden hose to spray about six inches from the condenser's fins to clear them of dust and leaves. This will help keep your condenser running efficiently.

(6) Finally, call an A/C service technician as soon as you suspect a problem. Although these tips will greatly reduce the possibility of A/C issues this summer, something else can always go wrong. If you suspect a problem, contact your technician immediately before the problem gets worse.

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Caroline S., Garden Oaks

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26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield Gazette Article Deadline
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield Ashura
30	31	1	The fundamental cause of trouble in the world is that the stupid are cocksure while the intelligent are full of doubt. — Bertrand Russell			

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**4 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS, 2,695 SF
13,255 SF LOT \$645,000**

Come see this beautifully maintained 1940's bungalow nestled in the heart of Garden Oaks. The house features hardwood flooring in excellent condition, double-paned energy efficient windows throughout, and an updated primary bedroom and en suite with elegant accents that create an atmosphere of warmth and peace. The kitchen has been tastefully updated and features all the modern amenities you need with stainless steel appliances and a large walk-in pantry. Two oversized secondary bedrooms sit in the front part of the house. At the back of the home is a large flex space with a lofted bedroom and full bathroom. The sprawling backyard provides room to install your dream pool oasis and still leave plenty of grassy space to play. Zoned to coveted Garden Oaks Elementary and Black Middle School, this home is just blocks from the Heights and a short walk from Whole Foods, Cottonwood, and the neighborhood park. Updated HVAC, architectural roof shingles, water heater 2020.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION
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