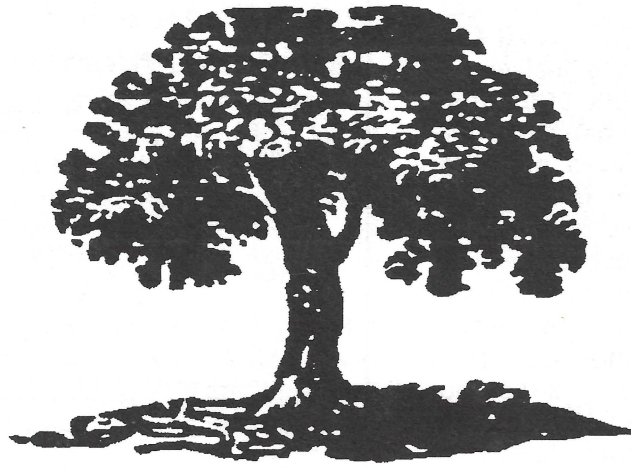


BULK RATE  
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# Garden Oaks Gazette

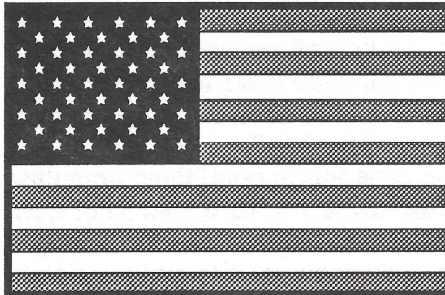
Circulation 1500

July

**Susan McMillian, President**  
718 W. 42nd Street  
Houston, Texas 77018  
695-8245

**Willard Mills, Treasurer**  
**Grace Blair, 1st V.P.,**  
Membership  
**Margaret Hall, Secretary**

**Darla and Rick Englert,**  
Editors 864-TREY  
**Isabella & George Keegan,**  
Advertising 681-4306



Civic Club Meeting Tuesday, July 11, 7pm at Garden Oaks Baptist Church

## Happy Fourth of July



### From The President...

Graham Park is one of Garden Oaks' greatest assets. Those of us who grew up here remember wonderful birthday parties in the pavilion with crepe paper streamers festooning the then smaller trees. The parties still happen, but mylar balloons have probably replaced the crepe paper and those trees are much taller. Just a few years ago Garden Oaks celebrated its fiftieth birthday party in the park. Despite a few raindrops (?), this memorable event bears repeating in future years. It was a day to be cherished, as original residents mingled with the newborn ones and memories were shared and made. A park is a special place for neighbors to gather and children to meet. Recently one of our members has spearheaded an Adopt-a-Park program to upgrade Graham Park. Hopefully you have noticed the colorful new paint on the equipment and the cleaner grounds. But there is lots of work to be done and it takes "peoplepower" as well as money. Only we can provide that "peoplepower". Setting aside one Saturday a month to improve our park seems like an excellent investment to me, although I have been among the guilty absent. The money, however, is a clearer prospect. The Houston Parks Board provides matching funds for capital improvements to city parks. Dollar for dollar everything we dedicate to Graham Park can be matched....doubling our money. That's "an offer we just can't refuse".

Another "unrefuseable offer" is a SPARK Park on the campus at Garden Oaks Elementary School. The SPARK program was founded by Councilmember Eleanor Tinsley as a way to utilize school grounds to expand Houston's green spaces. Although the resultant parks are maintained and partially funded by H.I.S.D. and are, of course, located on their property, they are public parks which are accessible to the community at all times. The community working together (School, Civic Club, residents, businesses, etc.) must raise at least \$5,000. H.I.S.D. matches that with another \$5,000 and Ms. Tinsley's SPARK organization provides another \$10,000 in goods and services to build the park. The decision of what shape the park takes is left to the discretion of a community based committee working with an assigned (and volunteer) SPARK liaison, who is purposefully somewhat unfamiliar with the community at the start. Should you be interested in what a \$20,000 park can look like, I suggest you visit **SHARON KOONTZ COMMUNITY PARK** at

Continued on pg. 2



Continued from pg. 1

Oak Forest Elementary (West 43rd at Oak Forest). The imaginative play equipment at each end of the front grounds and all the benches, play tables, trash receptacles, and other equipment in between makeup their SPARK Park. Ours may be different....in fact it probably should be. Every different locale has different needs and images of itself, which are expressed in individual park designs. But, whatever shape our park takes, it will provide for future generations of Garden Oaks residents WEST of Shepherd the gathering and meeting place that Graham Park is for those EAST of Shepherd. So many urban neighborhoods lack any parks at all, while Garden Oaks has an abundance. Counting our Pocket Parks (and I'll arm wrestle anybody who doesn't count 'em), Garden Oaks has SEVEN PARK SITES, either already developed or in our future plans (and you may want to check my math....for omissions). Just one more reason why GARDEN OAKS IS GREAT !! See you in the park!

*Susan McMillian*

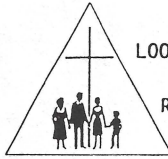
### Critter Corner

by David Horsley

Well, what do you think of the new trashbag law? Me neither, but I don't hear any big outcry to repeal it, so I am trying to look on the positive side and see if there is anything to like about using plastic trash bags.

The first good thing I discovered about the new law is this: it has made me a lot more conscious of what I am throwing away. It seemed easier to throw things away before, when we could just chuck them into the trashcan and drag it out to the street.

Now the process is more involved, and more trouble. Long stuff has to be shortened. Big flat stuff has to be transformed into little pieces. No more setting large objects out and hoping that the garbage man will throw them on the truck. And of course, money has to be spent on trash bags, lots and lots



LOOK UP TO GOD...

REACH OUT TO PEOPLE...

GARDEN OAKS BAPTIST CHURCH  
3206 North Shepherd  
Houston, Texas 77018, 864-4447

Bible Study - 9:45 A.M.  
Morning Worship - 11:00 P.M.  
Church Training - 5:45 P.M.  
Evening Worship - 6:45 P.M.  
Wednesday Prayer Service - 5:45 P.M.  
Jerry W. Lemon, Ph.D., Pastor

### CERTIFIED BUILDERS

203 W. Crosstimbers  
Houston, Texas 77018

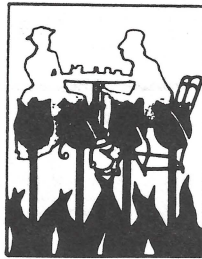
CUSTOM BUILDING  
COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL

- STORES
- HOMES
- NEW or OLD

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of them, tons upon tons of plastic choking our landfills..... wait, I said I was looking on the bright side, didn't I? The second good thing about the new law is this: it makes it easier for me to remember to recycle. Since I am now thinking twice about what goes into my kitchen trashcan, I am more inclined to rinse out mayonnaise jars and beer bottles and put them in my former garbagecan (now my recycling can) until the second Saturday of the month. If somebody can make some money and do something good with my recyclable trash, I am willing to do my part.

A third good thing about the new law is this: it has just about eliminated the practice of piling up large mountains of trash, limbs, old carpet, cardboard boxes and God knows what else by the street and leaving it there for weeks and weeks. I know you are not guilty of that practice. But now you won't even be tempted to do it. So the new trashbag law is indirectly responsible for improving the appearance of our neighborhood. Do you suppose that the Powers at City Hall had that in mind when they passed the law?

The fourth good thing about the new law is this: Now instead of stuffing the trashcans full of leaves and grass clippings, a few of our neighbors are discovering how easy it is to start a compost pile in the far corner of the yard. So instead of grass and leaves going to the landfill where they won't do anybody any good, people are turning them into mulch for next year's tomato plants.

Can you think of other benefits from our new trashbag law?

### Recycling: A Smash- ing Success!

Garden Oaks first attempt at recycling was a huge hit, judging from the number of neighbors who participated and the amount of material collected.

In case you missed it, on Saturday, June 10, a sweaty procession of pickup trucks and volunteers slowly made its way through Garden Oaks, picking up aluminum cans, newspapers, and glass bottles to recycle for cash.

Continued on pg. 3



**Recycling - Continued from pg. 2**

"We are tickled pink with the response," says Recycling Committee Chair Pam Park. "Of course we will do even better in July, now that people are starting to understand recycling."

Even skeptics can understand the following figures, representing the June recycling "haul":

Glass: 1,895 lbs.= \$56.86  
Newspaper: 8,000 lbs.= \$60.00  
Aluminum: 197 lbs. = \$108.95  
Batteries: 24-1/2 = \$24.50  
Total: \$350.31

A check for this amount was given to the Garden Oaks Civic Club.

Pam reports that some "fine-tuning" of the collection system will help things go a little smoother and quicker in July. "We made about 150 stops in June, which is 10% participation of 1500 households. We'd love to see it up around 50%".

You can help this effort in the following ways: First, ask your neighbors to start saving glass, cans, and newspapers. Word-of-mouth is the best way to involve more folks. Second, if you want to help collect on Saturday, July 8, please call **Pam Park** at **868-5223** for details. Volunteers are always welcome. Third, consider setting out your recyclables on Saturday morning instead of Friday evening, to reduce "disappearances". This is especially true of aluminum cans, if you like, keep your cans inside until you see the "recycling caravan" coming down the street then wave and the volunteers will come to your door to get the cans.

Thank you, Garden Oaks, for making recycling a reality! See you in July 8!

## New Editor And New Advertising Committee

Our term as Editors is passing. Thank you for allowing us to serve you. The hardest thing in being the Editor is getting the information from all the contributors. Listen folks, all ads and articles are due 30 days in advance that means you should have your news and ads ready by the monthly meeting of the Civic Club. Remember: Your criticism should be gentle. The Editor like the Advertising Committee is a volunteer job, making it thankless and nonpaying. However, if you are patient and understanding with your committee, have your articles and ads ready, it can be a very rewarding job!

We are pleased to announce that the new Editor for the **Gazette** will be **Anita Scherer**. Please welcome Anita and give her your support. Her telephone number is **956-7809**.

Many thanks and best wishes to Isabelle and George Keegan, our Advertising Committee. They are shuffling off to Buffalo, New York. Buffalo - The Home of Wings and Bills - The worst parts of the chicken. Good Luck and God Bless the Keegan Family!

### Advertising Volunteers Needed

We are still looking for volunteers to replace the Keegan's. If interested, please call Sue McMillian, 695-8245.

## Home Tour 1989

The Home Tour Committee has allocated the proceeds for the 1989 Home Tour which have been approved by the Civic Club. The proceeds are as follows:

\$1200.00 To the Beautification Committee  
\$1000.00 To Adopt - A - Park  
\$1000.00 To Spark Park  
\$500.00 To Community Garden

The balance of the proceeds will be retained with the Home Tour Committee for startup costs for 1990 Home Tour.

**TERRY RUSSEY**  
*Home Tour, Chairman*

It is nice to be important but  
it is more important to be nice.

## Adopt - A - Park News!

Graham Park on 34th sends its most heart felt thanks to the '89 Home Tour Committee for the gift of \$1,000.00! This generous donation will help us make much needed improvements and updates.

If you are interested in the park, please join your friends and neighbors at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 15th, in the park. We'll have a light breakfast and a brainstorming session regarding new ideas for improvements for the park. Following our breakfast meeting on the 15th, we'll make a clean sweep of the park grounds.

THANK YOU AGAIN, HOME TOUR '89! The park is greener than ever!

**ANN MCGINTY**  
*CHAIR*



# 1990 HOME SELECTION

If you know a home you would like to see on the 1990 Home Tour,

Please give us the details on the next page.



## Compost Bins

You can make a simple, inexpensive, small-scale compost bin from wire fencing. Concrete wire mesh works well and can be purchased from a local builder's supply yard. Providing it rests on a level surface on bare soil, it makes a useful container for holding waste materials and compost in batches. Cost of materials is about \$10.

Build the bin so it sits solidly on bare soil. This way, worms and other beneficial soil organisms can freely enter the pile. Leave a 2-inch gap between the wooden slats that form the sides of the bin so air can penetrate the pile from all sides.

### Materials for Compost

Garden refuse is excellent material for compost. Remains of vegetable crops, lawn clippings and weeds are commonly used. Tough stems, leaves and hedge prunings are best shredded before adding to the compost heap. Household wastes such as potato peels, egg shells and coffee grounds can be easily composted. Meat scraps, fat and bones should not be used. They attract rodents and produce rancid odors.

Anyone can make clean compost using common waste materials. Unfortunately, many people have an image of compost as smelling bad and attract flies and vermin. Properly made, it is clean, crumbly, odorless and completely free of diseases, pests and weed seeds.

Like good wine, good compost takes time and a lot of material to produce a small amount of quality finished product. Quality compost can be made by following these four

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steps:

1. Shred all waste material thoroughly before putting it on the compost pile.
2. Turn the compost pile.
3. Use an activator.
4. Keep pile moist but not wet.

## Civic Club Membership

Boy, can you believe all the new neighbors? (Cause and affect). This speaks very highly about our neighborhood, our Civic Club, our deed restrictions, and everyone one of you who gives a friendly smile or wave, goes out of their way to pickup some litter, or an active member in one of our numerous and beneficial committees. We all have many things to be thankful for and one of them is the Garden Oaks neighborhood.

Sure wish more of our neighbors were active in the Civic Club. Please, new neighbors, become active in the Civic Club while your enthusiasm is still high. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month. The meeting place is Garden Oaks Baptist Church (between 30th and 34th on Shepherd). Babysitting is provided @ \$1.00 a child.

We have alot of things going on including: 1990 Home Tour which has already started, (thank-you, Terry), Adopt-A-Park (Ann), Beautification (Marian), Community Garden (Jan), Recycling (Pam), Garden Club (Katherine), and many, many more.

### Thank You

Our Thank You's go to Craig Allen and Mr. Hernandez for the pizza they donated for our June Civic Club Meeting. They are employed by Bambolino's on Ella.

## GARDEN OAKS HOME TOUR 1990 HOME SELECTION

Homeowner \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: **GARDEN OAKS HOME TOUR**  
C/O Mr. Terry Russey  
1062 Lamonte Lane  
Houston, Texas 77018



## Introduction to Art

June 8 1989 Houston, Texas - "From the time I could pick up a crayon I wanted to be an artist." replies Bridget Mongeon, a commercial and fine artist of Houston, "All my life I have fed that desire. Some say it is a gift, or inherited, I know now that it is something that lies within many of us, if not all, you just need to nurture it"

Mongeon has been working from her home studio for 10 years, "I have recently been turning more towards fine arts and the freedom it holds for expression. It is very different from the package design, billboards and advertising campaigns of the past.

My favorite thing to draw and paint is people. I especially love to draw children and their interactions between themselves, adults and life. Even in this my commercial background seems to emerge for even these will market to greeting card companies, publishers, magazines, and of course those parents who love to have something special hanging on their walls.

My newest medium is sculpture and it has become a maximum of expression for me to capture the busts of beloved children or love between mother and child.

It seems like I have done so much, the high pressure thrill of advertising agencies, the composite satisfaction of periodicals and now fine art, what's next? A question I ask myself often. I have a real desire to sculpt life-size. Perhaps for a park or mall. I can see it in my mind. Children, with all their passion for life, captured forever in time"

Wanting to share a little of the nurturing, Mongeon also teaches. Classes are held at West End Multi Service Center, Auditorium A, 170 Heights Blvd.

They will be running evenings for 6 weeks starting in July. Deadline for registration is July 3rd.

### Introduction to art

4-7 years old

Mondays beginning July 17th 6-7 pm.

A class filled with encouragement, teaching young people how to

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customers could  
be reading your  
ad right now!**

see and draw with and introduction to different materials.

\$45.00+ materials

### Drawing

7-11 years old

Thursdays beginning July 20th

6-7 pm

A class teaching to see and draw with pencil and markers

\$45.00+ materials

### Nurturing your talent and making money from art

high school - adult

Mondays beginning July 17th

7-8 pm

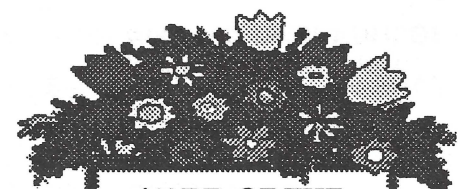
A great class to help one learn about the resources available in Houston. Learning what classes, workshops, magazines and books, are available that help to bring out ones fullest potential.

Also assistance in learning the many ways to make money with your art. Included in the course will be contacts of those purchasing artistic talents through the mail.

\$55.00

For more information or to register for classes call 699-1739

A painting entitled "Memories in the Sand" exhibits one of the many talents of local artist and teacher Bridget Mongeon.



**YARD OF THE  
MONTH**

**TRACEY AND KATHY  
THOMAS  
4311 Apollo**

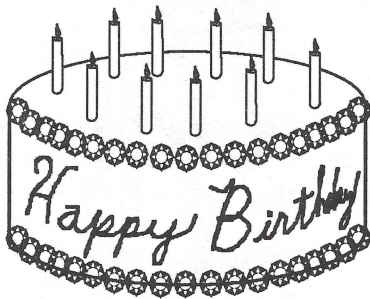


## Safeway Receipts

As you are aware, Safeway no longer honors the Civic Club as a charitable organization. This should not hamper our efforts to do a good deed. Many churches and schools still reap the rewards of Safeway's generosity. Please take the effort and dedicate a jar or canister for grocery receipts then just bring them to the next Civic Club meeting. It is absolutely amazing how much money can be generated. Act now; don't wait.

This is a story about a very religious man named Boudreaux. Every day Boudreaux would pray to God that he would win the lottery. Years and years would pass and Boudreaux would pray to God, "Please, Lord, let me win the lottery." Then one day, Boudreaux received a message from God. "Boudreaux, buy a ticket!"

This story is about active and passive participation. Boudreaux was very religious but a passive participant. The world is full of passive participation. Garden Oaks needs, wants, pleads, begs, appeals, requests, and solicits you for your active participation. I know it is a handful of give me and mouthful of much obliged! The self satisfaction will be our lottery ticket.



## July Birthdays

**MATHEW WELKER** - July 25 - 2 yrs

**JOSHUA MEREK** - July 26 - 6 yrs

**JACK PEDEN** - July 10 - 3 yrs

**ANNIE NEWLIN** - July 11 - 1 yr

July Calendar of Events						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Volleyball 4:00 pm	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8 Recycle Pick-Up Day
9 Volleyball 4:00 pm	10	11 Civic Club 7:00 pm	12 <i>Gazette</i> Deadline	13 Home Tour Meeting 7:30 pm	14	15 Adopt A Park 9:00 am
16 Volleyball 4:00 pm	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Volleyball 4:00 pm	24	25	26	27 Home Tour Meeting 7:30 pm	28	29
30	31					



*Cut calendar out and place on your refrigerator in order not to miss anything!*

### New Baby

**William Blake Bijak** born May 23! Proud parents are **Bill and Bonnie Bijak!** Congratulations to all of you!

**Anna Christine Gorski** born May 12! Proud parents are **Joel and Carolyn Gorski!** Congratulations to all of you!

**Maren Clair Weinberger** born June 6! Proud parents are **Jim and Terry Weinberger!** Congratulations to all of you!

## Thank You

Thank you Joel Dunlap for your presentation on Crime Prevention at the Civic Club Meeting in June. Your presentation was very informative and hopefully we learned how to obtain those "precious 5 seconds" in a crisis situation.

## "Thumbs-Up" Award

The "thumbs-up" award goes to Ike Green Soil Yard on 3901 Pinemont who contributed a full yard of mulch for the pocket park on Lawrence and 34th Streets. Although only a fourth of a yard was requested, he knew you can never have enough mulch!

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