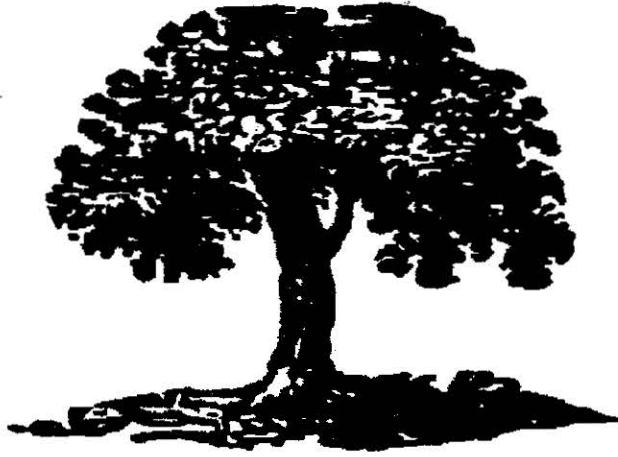


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Garden Oaks Gazette

Vol. 14, No. 3

Circulation 1700

March 1991

Happy St. Patrick's Day

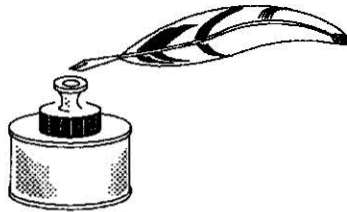
Home Tour 1991

To all of you who have been eagerly awaiting its arrival, it is almost time for the Garden Oaks Home Tour! It will be held on **Sunday, April 28**, with a rain date of Sunday, May 5.

The Home Tour Committee selected six homes which truly reflect the diversity and unique qualities of the people who choose to make Garden Oaks their home, and of the homes themselves. The homes range from a newly constructed, completely elegant home to a wonderful whimsical home with a kitchen painted like a cow! You won't want to miss it.

We will be needing many volunteers to make this home tour successful. To make it easier for you to volunteer, we will be having a Tour Day Children's Party for all the children of volunteers. They will have a great time with games, toys, and refreshments, all provided free of charge. If you would like to be a part of this Garden Oaks tradition, call Jennifer Day at 699-8417 or Denise Epstein at 869-0128.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at Kaplan's-Ben Hur, or on the day of the tour at any of the tour homes. The cost of the tickets will be \$6.00 for the complete tour or \$2.00 for any individual home.



Editor's Notes...

In the February Gazette I wrote about our COP program and made a plea for volunteers. Shortly after that issue went to press, I witnessed an attempted burglary. If my neighbor hadn't scared them off, the burglary would have taken place. Please read the COP article for the details of this crime. Now more than ever I want you all to think about joining the program to protect your neighborhood. As I said last month, crime has dropped to a bare minimum since we started patrolling, but it will rise again when we stop.

We have some good articles this month: Anita's President's Message, Jan's Notes From the Garden, and our Readers' Forum. We also have a new column this month; Befriend Our Earth. I hope you enjoy reading the Gazette. If you have any comments, suggestions, or additions, please call me. Hope to hear from you!

Jaime Connor Pierce

Civic Club Meets March 9

The next Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting will be held **Tuesday, March 9** at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be served at 7:00 pm with the business portion of the meeting beginning at 7:15 pm. Committee budgets for 1991 will be presented at this meeting. The program is to be announced.

Baby-sitting is available for \$1.00 per child. Don't miss out, a door prize will be given to a lucky attendee. It could be YOU! Come and bring a neighbor with you.

Lost & Found

Found: A children's watch was found near the SPARK Park. To claim, call **Lee Ann Baggett** at 691-4282 and identify.

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President's Message

My favorite time of the year is upon us. Spring anywhere is a pleasant time, but in Garden Oaks it is especially beautiful. The majestic trees, the brilliant azaleas, and the abundant wildlife all contribute to and enhance the peaceful and relaxing atmosphere of our community. It is sometimes hard to believe that we live within the boundaries of a large metropolis.

Spring is the time of year for getting outdoors and enjoying this beautiful weather. The heat is not stifling enough to require air conditioning, and the nights are still pleasantly cool. This is the time of year to meet your neighbors and make new friends. In Garden Oaks this means bicycling, picnicking, block parties, volleyball games, and softball games in addition to the variety of committee activities the Civic Club offers. Also, spring in Garden Oaks means Home Tour. This year's Home Tour will be April 28. Let's make this year's event the best ever!

This spring, don't miss out on the fun. Throw a block party, have a picnic at the SPARK park with your neighbors, organize a friendly game, join the Civic Club, attend the Home Tour, party at the Home Tour Gala. Most of all, enjoy springtime in Garden Oaks.

Anita Scherer



Good Neighbors

The Refreshment Committee would like to thank Darrell Murphy of Appletree on 43rd for the delicious cakes and cookies at the February Civic Club meeting. Mr. Murphy is always happy to donate goodies for our meetings.



Beautification Report

The next meeting of the Beautification Committee will be held on Thursday, February 28 at 7:30 PM at 407 W. 34th St.

The Beautification Committee presented the final plan for the development of the 43rd Street esplanade at the February Civic Club meeting. Our final plan included some changes from the drawing in last month's Gazette, but the basic concept remained the same. After discussion, the Club voted to provide \$5000 in additional funding to carry through the first phase in time (we hope) for the Home Tour on April 28.

Completing the plan will require substantially more money - as much as \$20,000 more, but we have hope that we will receive some funding from an "outside" source. Mrs. Betty Cornelius, who actually lives in Garden Oaks Plaza rather than in Garden Oaks, has volunteered to solicit funds for the landscaping plan from area businesses. Garden Oaks Plaza residents pass by the esplanade going to and from their homes, so they have a personal interest in this particular project. We have heard from "usually well-informed" sources that Mrs. Cornelius is known for her ability to "make things happen," and we certainly appreciate her efforts in this campaign.

On a different topic, there is something every Garden Oaks resident can do to help improve the appearance of our community. We realize of course that no one who lives here would ever drop a piece of litter anywhere other than in a trash can, but passersby sometimes do. Why not take the "Please Don't Litter" strategy one step further and pick up the occasional piece of stray trash from the street, the park, or the playground? Take the same pride in our common areas that you would feel about your own yard. If we all do our part, Garden Oaks will be not just the *best* place to live in Houston, but the *cleanest* as well!



Notes From the Garden

by Jan Koenig

This column will show up in your mailbox sometime around the first of Marc, which just happens to be the best time to plant your spring crop of tomatoes. Tomatoes are the favorite vegetable for home gardeners around the country, and Houstonians are no exception. I suppose that's because the quality of grocery store tomatoes just can't compare with the taste and texture of the home-grown variety.

But tomato tenders in Houston face a variety of obstacles before they can enjoy the fruits of their labors. Garden Oaks gardeners contend with withering heat, severe droughts, occasional floods, armies of insects, virulent diseases, hungry birds, and mischievous squirrels. Any one of these can wreak havoc on the innocent gardener's tomato patch.

The single most important factor in successful tomato gardening in this part of the country is planting the right variety. Many of the most popular varieties grown elsewhere around the U.S. simply can't stand up to the stress of a Houston summer. A few of the varieties that do well here are Celebrity, Carnival, Bingo, and Carmello. Beginning in February, most nurseries will carry one or more of these, in addition to several other choices. But remember, just because you can buy a particular variety in Houston doesn't mean it is supposed to grow here!

We're talking about buying tomato plants of course. It's fun and relatively easy to start your own plants from seed, but the seeds need to be planted indoors in early January to be ready to set out in early March. Plant the tomato seedling relatively deep, so that the first set of leaves is just above the soil. This encourages a stronger root system, since the plant will send out more roots from the lower part of the stem which you buried in the soil.

Tomatoes need a lot of sun and rich, well drained soil. Don't plant a tomato anywhere where water tends to stand after a heavy rain. If your soil isn't very good quality, work in a few shovels of well rotted manure or compost before setting in each plant.

Water the plant in well afterward. Keep the plant shaded from direct sunlight (particularly afternoon sun) for at least the first few days. Any way you want to do it is fine - cardboard, paper bags, and fabric all work well.

Houston weather in early March is pretty "iffy." Tomato plants simply cannot survive freezing temperatures, so they need to be protected from the occasional late frost. First of all, don't plant tomatoes if it looks like were going to have sub-freezing temperatures in the next few days. If your tomato plants are already in the ground and the weather turns cold, make sure they are well protected. A blanket or towel supported by a stick to keep it off of the plant will do the job in most cases. But be sure to remove the cover if the sun comes out and temperatures warm up during the day. Otherwise you might accidentally fry your baby tomatoes.

These techniques will help your tomatoes get off to a good start. Coming up next month - ways to battle the evil forces your tomatoes will encounter as they grow. See you at the garden!

Heard Under The Oak Tree



Congratulation to **Rob and Terry Jeanes**, who will celebrate their 13th wedding anniversary on March 17.

Rick Hecksel of Section 5 was the lucky winner of the door prize at the February Civic Club. He won a beautiful potted croton. Remember, you can't win if you don't come!

Edle Carlson-Abbey raised a question about a statement printed in the Gazette last year: "...all new construction, and remodeling or exterior alterations must be approved by the Board of Trustees." Yes, Edie, for **altercations**, call the police, for **alterations**, call the Board!

Look in the March issue of *Houston Women* for a feature on the Garden Oaks neighborhood.

Ask a friend...
Terry Jeanes
a Garden Oaks resident
868-2511

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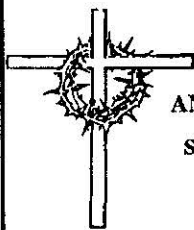
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CHURCH DISCIPLESHIP - 6:00 P.M.

EVENING WORSHIP - 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE - 6:00 P.M.

Jerry W. Lemon, Ph.D., Pastor

**Garden
Oaks**



**Citizens
On Patrol**

What type of house do you think of when you think of a prime burglary target? I always think of a house with an obstructed view of the front door, no one around, no dogs about, and on the outskirts of the neighborhood. My views proved wrong early one January morning, as I watched two burglars set to work on a neighbor's house.

Just before 9:00 AM on a weekday morning, I was looking out my window while rocking my baby. I saw a truck cruising slowly up the street, and watched as it pulled into the driveway across the street. The driver got out and went to the front door, apparently waiting for the homeowner to answer. After a while, and after he had peered through the french door glass, he said something to his passenger. The passenger got out with a sheet of paper in his hand and joined the first man at the door. At this point I left the window to lay my daughter down so I could call the police. When I got back, the men returned to their truck and drove off. Another neighbor had gone out his front door, scaring the men away. After they were gone, we could see how they had pried at the door jamb, trying to force open the front door. I called the police and reported the license number and gave them a description of the men and the truck. I am still kicking myself for not calling sooner, when they may have been caught.

The main reason I waited so long, besides the fact that I had my baby in my arms, was that I had a hard time believing that these men were burglars. They looked like repair men, the passenger appeared to have a service order in his hand, and they were so blatant! Of course, this was their intent, to appear as though

they were supposed to be there. This goes back to my original view of a prime burglary target. This house has a very visible front door, two barking dogs in the side yard, two barking dogs on the other side, and neighbors home all around. I couldn't believe it. It just goes to show that you never know what to expect and you can't be too careful.

So now I'll say it again: We need patrollers. We also need someone to coordinate the activities of the key COP people, i.e., the schedulers, base station operators, and record keepers. It is a fairly simple job but an important one. Call any COP number or any officer's number on the back page for more information. Protect Garden Oaks and you protect yourself.

Jaime

COP Crimewatch

December Statistics

Patrol Area 1 = Section 1

Hours Patrolled 20.7

Burglary 1

Patrol Area 2 = Sections 2 & 3

Hours Patrolled 17

Burglary 1

Patrol Area 3 = Sections 4 & 5

Hours Patrolled 29

*(Attempted Burglary 1)

Total Hours Patrolled 66.7

Total Crime 2

*Attempted crimes aren't counted

Correction: The phone number printed in February's Reader's Forum for Area 2 Volunteers is 692-8822.

Garden Oaks Runners Club

Garden Oaks runners- let's ALL get together! All caliber of runners are welcome. Questions or comments? Call Tim

Pagel at
686-4424.



Readers' Forum

Readers' Forum is a column designed for you to express your opinions, ideas, or to share something with the rest of the neighborhood. The ideas and opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily endorsed by the Civic Club or the Gazette.

by Rita Donaldson

Upon leaving their homes, ancient Hindus were apt to pray that their houses might be kept safe from tigers. And though I have yet to see a tiger stalking Area 1, we volunteer COP patrollers know that our visibility on the streets is helping to keep all our homes safe from "tigers."

But you, not just you my immediate neighbors in Section 1, but all of you in our lovely Garden Oaks neighborhood, are needed; particularly as patrollers. We do not have "about 120" volunteers as stated in the *Chronicle This Week* recently. We are functioning with but a handful of faithful folk. And to you, the faithful, I thank you for your commitment.

Focus on Area 1 for a moment. (Patrol Area 1 is inclusive of the geographic boundaries of Section 1.) In August, 29 concerned citizens volunteered to serve in some capacity (patroller, base station operator, scheduler, etc.) From that pool of 29, only 15 actually became worker bees, tallying 30 hours in August, our first official month. During December, our merry band had diminished to 12 and could log but 20 hours on the streets.

There are 14 August volunteers yet to hit the streets. Seven others have come forward and been quali-

fied as COP's subsequent to the initial group. We so welcome you new, self-starting stalwarts and thank you for your civic concern.

But what of you who have been more hesitant to step forward. Try it - you'll like it! Look about your neighborhood rather than upon your bed of prize day lilies. Drive for a scheduled hour around Patrol Area 1 rather than your usual trek to the shopping mall. You might find it to be more satisfying and surely more economical.

Those of you who enjoy daily walks or jogs can also be qualified as COP's. Keep those eyes roving and wear one of our bright logo t-shirts. You are an untapped resource; already a citizen on the streets and accustomed to your neighborhood activity.

Visibility is our sole weapon against the crime tiger. You, my neighbor, can truly help to keep our families and homes "safe from tigers."



**DECORATING TIPS...
WATCH THOSE WALLS!**

By Jane Warner

Are your walls white or a flat, neutral color because you don't know what else to do with them? Are you afraid to use vibrant color or texture?

The largest portion of color in your home will be on the walls. Here are some considerations: For what purpose will the room be used? What colors do you and your family prefer? Depending on how much natural light you have, do you want the room to look warm or cool? Do you want to visually make the room larger or smaller? Do you want to create a harmonious flow from one room to another? Depending on the color used, will the room appear balanced?

The kitchen should feature cheerful colors: a brightly colored wallpaper with contrasting border can liven up the room, and the window and door trim can be painted a coordinating color.

The living and dining rooms, usually more formal and used for entertaining, should represent personal style and color preferences. Strong color, either by paint or wallpaper, can achieve dramatic results and tie the two rooms together.

The entry hall may be ideal for a faux marble or stone wallpaper, a color that will enhance the area which usually has low natural light. The bedroom, a personal retreat, is effective when coordinating wallpapers with borders, but beware; using borders when space is small can create a closed in feeling. Borders look great at the base board and around door molding, not just at the top of the walls.

A splash of color on the wood trim can be use with customized fabric treatments. The bath is an ideal room for painted walls with stenciling. Tie your whole house together...or have a flowing change from room to room...use that color!

Count me in – I want to help!

**I want to support the Garden Oaks Civic Club in its efforts
to create and maintain a great neighborhood.**

Please fill in opposite side and mail to

Garden Oaks Civic Club

Jennifer Day

717 W. 42nd Street

Houston, Texas 77018



Befriend Our Earth

Readers: This column is for *you* to voice facts about the environment and offer tips on how to save it.

Your efforts in saving the earth should start in the grocery store. By choosing environmentally safe products and avoiding non-recyclable packaging, you will be nipping waste in the bud. You will also save yourself a lot of money.

For instance, a cardboard cylinder of oatmeal costs \$2.23 for 42 ounces. If you buy a box of single serving packets of oatmeal you will pay \$2.67 for only 16 ounces. You will be paying extra for all the extra packaging, which only makes more waste. The cylinder gives you over 2.5 times the product for about \$.44 less. Other over-packaged products are Aunt Jemima's Pancake Express and NyQuil. The pancake mix fills less than half of the plastic container and makes only 6 pancakes, so it's used once and tossed.

NyQuil is in a plastic bottle and comes with an unnecessary plastic cup, and these are inside a cardboard box. Consider a tin can of peanuts. It has a plastic lid over a tin lid. The edges of the can are so sharp that you probably won't reuse the can, making the plastic lid redundant. If you buy peanuts in glass jars, the containers are reusable and recyclable. Another bad packaging idea is the foam egg carton. Plastic foam is totally non-biodegradable, which

means it will never go away. A better choice is the cardboard carton. These are hard to find around here, although Randall's carries them. We should all ask our grocers to carry the cardboard cartons. Cardboard milk cartons are best for the environment and your health. Cardboard protects the milk from vitamin-zapping fluorescent lights. Milk might be a little more expensive this way in the short run, but plastic is definitely more expensive in the long run.

At the checkout, paper is better than plastic, but why choose either? Why not use canvas bags? They are reusable and won't tear apart. Our Civic Club has ordered some high grade canvas shopping bags with our oak tree and Garden Oaks Civic Club on them. You can keep them in your car and use them whenever you go to the grocery or drug stores. You can help save the environment and advertise our great neighborhood at the same time! They will sell for only \$5.99 each or \$21.99 for 4. Buy several, they make great gifts.

The people of Garden Oaks are doing a great job recycling trash but, remember, if you don't buy it, you don't have to throw it away. Just remember these three key words; reduce, reuse, recycle. And keep up the good work!

The information in this article was obtained from the *Houston Post*, January 13, 1991.

Garden Oaks canvas bags can be purchased at the April Civic Club meeting or call 688-3237.



March is City-Wide Bicycle Registration Month

According to Houston Police Department statistics, there are about 8,000 bikes reported stolen in the city of Houston annually. At an average cost of \$200 per bike, the dollar value loss is at least \$1.6 million.

The majority of these bikes were secured with poor quality locks or no locks at all! Often the Police Department recovers the stolen bikes, but cannot identify the rightful owner because the bikes are not registered. Registering your bike enables the Police Department to contact you if the bike is recovered.

This is why Councilmember Beverly Clark, the Houston Police Department and the Houston Fire Department are sponsoring this City-Wide Bicycle Month.

During March one can register a bicycle at any one of the city's fire stations (see list of nearby stations below) on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 to 5 p.m. As always, the fire stations will register bicycles on any weekday during normal work hours. The registration fee is \$1.00.

Station #	Location
31	222 W. Crosstimbers at Old Yale
13	2215 W. 43rd at W. TC Jester

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Children/Birthdates: _____

Years lived in Garden Oaks: _____

Annual Membership Fees Due February 1, 1991 \$10 Family Membership \$5 Senior Citizens (Garden Oaks Roots) \$25 Business Membership

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB
MAIL TO: JENNIFER DAY, 2nd V.P., MEMBERSHIP

Recycling Update

Numerous residents have called wishing to have a breakdown of recycled items by pounds as well as dollars. So in the future the recycling report will contain all of the information available to us. The 1990 yearly results are listed below, however the total pounds for the year were not available.

1990 Totals

Paper:	Newsprint		\$	623.89
	Ledger		\$	292.24
	Computer		\$	580.57
	Cardboard		\$	16.68
Metals:	Aluminum cans		\$	1,266.23
	Other Aluminum		\$	52.99
	Other Metals		\$	69.80
	Batteries		\$	50.85
Glass:			\$	1,193.80
Plastic:			\$	16.48
TOTAL			\$	<u>4,163.53</u>

January 1991 Totals

Paper:	Computer	60lbs	\$	11.20
Metals:	Aluminum cans	349 lbs	\$	129.13
	Other Aluminum	44 lbs	\$	11.38
	Batteries	1	\$	1.25
Glass:		3,560 lbs	\$	80.10
TOTAL			\$	<u>233.06</u>

Total Participation: 24%

Newsprint and plastic were donated due to the low prices being paid per pound.

The next pickup date is March 9. The Recycling Committee can always use more volunteers and trucks. If you have made your New Year's resolution to become more active in your community, come on out and give us a hand. We can always use your help. Call **Scott Van Fleet*** at 862-3562, or **Rusty Day**, president, at 699-8417.

**Scott Van Fleet has been appointed treasurer of the Recycling Committee.*

Cooking for Kids

FROZEN BANANA POPS

- 4 bananas
- 2 T. hot water
- 1/3 c. carob powder
- 2 t. honey
- 1/2 c. finely chopped nuts
- 8 ice cream sticks

Peel bananas and slice in half. Stir hot water into carob until it becomes thick and smooth. Add honey. Insert sticks into bananas and dip into carob, coating completely. Roll in nuts, place on foil and freeze. When hard, wrap completely and return to freezer until you are ready to eat them. They will taste like ice cream!

KERMIT'S DIP

- 1 ripe avocado
- 1 c. yogurt or tofu
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 1/4 t. Mexican spices
- 1 T. hot sauce

Mash everything together with a fork or use blender. Eat with raw vegetables or tortilla chips.

CRISPY RICE TREATS

- 1 T. sesame oil
- 1/2 c. honey
- 2 T. peanut or almond butter
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1 t. maple syrup
- 3 c. crispy rice cereal

Warm the oil, honey and nut butter over low heat, stirring until well blended. Remove from heat and stir in

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vanilla and maple syrup. Fold in cereal until completely coated. Spread in a lightly greased 8-inch square pan and cut when almost cooled.

INSTANT BANANA PUDDING

- 1 ripe banana
- 1/2 c. applesauce
- 2 t. plain yogurt

Mash banana, add yogurt and applesauce. Blend and eat.

These recipes were obtained from the Whole Foods Market



March Birthdays

- 1 Kyle Bauer, 1 year!
- 2 Gabriela Braastad, 1 year!
- 3 Randi Easterling, ?
- 4 Jennifer Day, 30 something
- 4 Cory Russell, 11 years
- 5 Katie Bruns, 4 years
- 6 Caitlan Easterling, 5 years
- 18 Lawrence Hltz, ?
- 18 J.C. King, 76 years
- 19 Lauren Rogers, 9 years
- 28 Ryan Hall, 11 years
- 31 Lindsey Russell, 9 years

Do you have a birthday, wedding, promotion, graduation, award, or other special event to announce? Put it in the *Gazette*! Call 688-3237 and make the news.

The *Garden Oaks Gazette* is printed on recycled paper. 

Gazette Ad Rates
 \$35 per month - \$175 - 6 months
 \$325 - 1 year
 Deadline for April *Gazette* is March 8

Garden Oaks Civic Club Numbers

<p>Anita Scherer, President 4223 Apollo • 956-7809</p> <p>Jalme Connor Pierce, 1st Vice President & Editor 958 Gardenia • 688-3237</p> <p>Jennifer Day, Vice President, Membership 717 W. 42nd • 699-8417</p> <p>Arv and Barbara Vilutis, Treasurers • 692-0581</p>	<p>Susan & Bill McMillian, Advertising • 695-8245</p> <p>Cindy Ballard, Assistant Editor 717 W. 41st Street • 697-6244</p> <p>Jan Koenig, Secretary 869-8997</p> <p>James Doyle, President Board of Trustees 694-4314</p>
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March Calendar of Events						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				Feb. 28 Beautification 7:30	1	2
3	4	5 Civic Club 7:00 pm	6	7	8 Gazette deadline	9 Recycle Pick-Up 8:00 am
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 1st Day of Spring	21	22	23
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30 Passover
31 Easter Sunday						

COP Numbers to Remember:

- Schedulers:
- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Area 1 - David Epstein | 869-0128 |
| Area 2 - Joan Fudge | 692-8822 |
| or Bernise Sears | 695-2192 |
| Area 3 (Days) - Norris Carle | 686-7201 |
| Area 3 (Evenings) - Bill Bijak | 688-2097 |

Board of Trustees Representatives Numbers to Remember:

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Section I | George Paul | 861-0328 |
| Section II | Susan McMillian | 695-8245 |
| Section III | David Veselka | 692-1384 |
| Section IV | Willard Mills | 686-6592 |
| Section V | Vee Gaines | 686-5042 |
| | James J. Doyle, President | 694-4134 |

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REAL ESTATE REPORT

March, 1991

Volume 1, Number 1

GARDEN OAKS

Garden Oaks is a PRIME SPOT in Houston! The first section was developed in 1937 by Edward Lillo Crain; four more sections and Garden Oaks Plaza followed. Over one thousand homes have been built, many of which have been renovated. Also, there has been recent new home construction.

It is exciting to live in Garden Oaks, the subdivision where beautiful tall trees embrace the neighborhood. The many colorful homes form an ever present rainbow. The houses are painted red, blue, yellow, pink, white and green; and trimmed with shades of complimentary colors, such as gray, beige, green, white and black.

Wildlife flourishes in Garden Oaks. Graceful squirrels with bushy tails raid the bountiful pecan and nut trees for their winter stash. A variety of birds, (including pigeons, blue jays, woodpeckers, bats and owls), domestic pets, and other furry friends live in the trees and yards of Garden Oaks.

The yards of Garden Oaks are wonderful! Many of them are lovingly manicured. Each month a "yard of the month" is selected by the active neighborhood garden club. Proud neighbors and garden club members take turns caring for several pocket parks within the subdivision. Many homeowners are amazed and happy to own such large lots for their homestead. Lot sizes vary from 7,000 square feet to over 22,000 square feet. Some of the large homes on West 43 Street and Sue Barnett are sitting on almost one acre.

The rainbow of homes accented with beautiful landscaping and a kingdom of animals are a few of the reasons many people find Garden Oaks a desirable neighborhood. Their own small hometown within the city limits of Houston, Garden Oaks is accessible to all of the major arteries of activity in Houston. Being located just outside Loop 610 makes traveling to other areas convenient.

WHAT A PRIME SPOT!!!! Whether you are buying or selling, a landlord or tenant, you will prosper in **GARDEN OAKS!!!!**

NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION & FACTS

The construction of a wider North Shepherd is due to be completed in February, 1992.

The new **President and First Lady Health Club** is now open in the Garden Oaks Center on North Shepherd.

For information on **recycling** (Recycle Saturdays), contact Rusty Day, 699-8417.

Citizens on Patrol, (C.O.P.) is a watch group, designed to help reduce crime in a community. Currently there are 107 volunteer C.O.P.'s patrolling throughout Garden Oaks and Garden Oaks Plaza. There are four "base stations", which are in constant contact with the patrol cars via C.B. radios. The patrol cars are identified with magnetic signs on the car doors. Volunteers can contact Anita Scherer, 956-7809.

Join the **Garden Oaks Civic Club**, call Jennifer Day, 699-8417.

If you would like to help with the **community garden**, contact Jan Koenig, 869-8997.

Are you interested in running? Join the **Garden Oaks Running Club**. Call Tim Pagel, 686-4424.

For information about the **Garden Oaks Political Awareness Exchange (GOPAX)**, contact Scott MacClymonds, 691-3020.

Did you know that there is a **Garden Oaks Babysitting Co-op?** Contact Suzanne Debien, REALTORS for information, 861-5040.

Information about the neighborhood newsletter, **The Garden Oaks Gazette**, can be obtained from Jaime Connor Pierce, 688-3237.

To help plan and maintain the pocket parks, call the **Beautification Committee** Chairman, Jan Koenig, 869-8997.

Do you have a green thumb? Join the **Garden Club**, call Candy Foster, 869-0343.

If you would you like to nominate a candidate for the **Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award**, call Suzanne Debien, REALTORS at 861-5040.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE PAST

(What was the rate of interest on your mortgage loan when you bought your house in Garden Oaks?)

Vee Gaines and her husband bought their home in Section Five, in June 1949. At that time, their new \$8,000 home could be financed as a 4 1/2 percent conventional or a 4 percent V.A. loan.

Paul Marek purchased his two bedroom, one bath home in 1977. He financed it at a rate of interest of 9 1/2 percent.

(Why did you decide to purchase a home in Garden Oaks?)

The Gaines family always loved Garden Oaks. A dear friend lived in Garden Oaks and introduced them to the area. When they moved in their home, 43rd Street was not paved.

The Garden Oaks area lured Paul Marek as a bachelor and now serves him well as a husband and father of three children. Since his marriage to Kathy, his bachelor pad has been converted into a hugh customized family home.

HELP A CLOWN CHEER UP CHILDREN

Do you have any new or used toys that can be donated to cheer up hospitalized children? Suzanne Debien, REALTORS, has started a drive to help ventriloquist clown Nancy Clancy and her dummy, Clancy, give sick children a toy when she regularly visits several hospitals monthly. Give us a call if you can donate to this worthy cause.

OUR GIFT TO YOU

Here is a handy sticker to place on your telephone in the event you need emergency help.

SUZANNE DEBIEN, REALTORS AND GARDEN OAKS

Since David and Suzanne Debien moved to Garden Oaks in 1973, they have seen a lot of changes and made many friends. Their businesses have prospered with the area. David started his firm, Debien Climate Control in 1972 and changed its name to Central City Air in 1987. Suzanne began her Real Estate career in 1976 when she became licensed as a REALTOR. She earned her Real Estate broker license in 1981 and opened Suzanne Debien, REALTORS in 1981.

One of Suzanne's first offices was housed in a little white building located on Wakefield Street. That little white building is now pink and the home of The Legato Hair Salon. Through the years, Suzanne and her group have sold many homes in Garden Oaks and other popular neighborhoods in Houston. Currently, they are located in a prestigious highrise office tower on the south side of the 610 Loop, between Ella Boulevard and Durham Drive, (1235 North Loop West, Suite 1215). They have occupied three different suites in this building, moving each time and expanding to larger space with more amenities to better serve you, and your real estate needs.

As broker/owner of her firm, it is very important that Suzanne is well informed in regard the laws of real estate that are regulated by the Texas Real Estate Commission. In order to function professionally in her position, Suzanne has earned the prestigious GRI (Graduate REALTORS Institute) and CRS (Certified Residential Specialist). These professional designations are held by a small percentage of REALTORS nationwide.

Suzanne's credentials as a professional real estate broker include being a director on the board of the Houston Association of REALTORS and also, a director on the board of the Texas Association of REALTORS. Suzanne is a life member of the Texas Real Estate Political Action Committee, (TREPAC). She is the 1991 TREPAC chairman and has served on numerous other committees of the Texas and Houston Association of REALTORS..

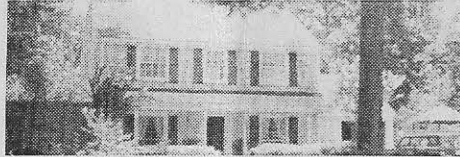
(Continued on page 5)

WHAT'S BEEN SOLD

It's always fun for a Real Estate firm to brag about the houses they have marketed and sold. Suzanne Debien, REALTORS is no exception to that rule of thought. They are particularly proud of some of the following Garden Oaks sales their firm generated in 1990:



811 Azalea



523 W. 32nd



814 Azalea



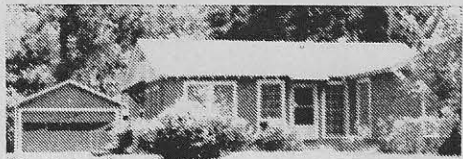
508 W. 34th



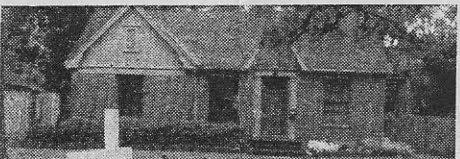
526 W. 34th



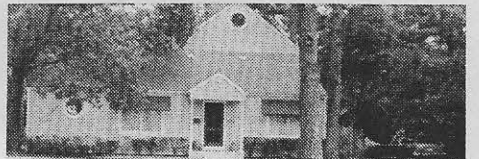
710 W. 32nd



802 W. 32nd



235 W. 33rd



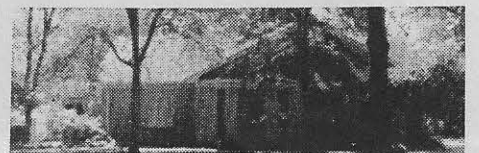
822 Lamonte



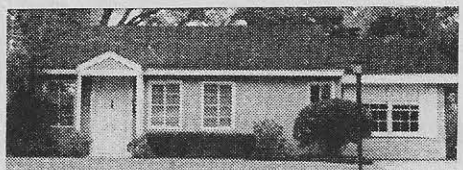
516 W. 34th



1066 W. 42nd



1335 Sue Barnett



971 Althea



407 W. 30th



328 W. 34th

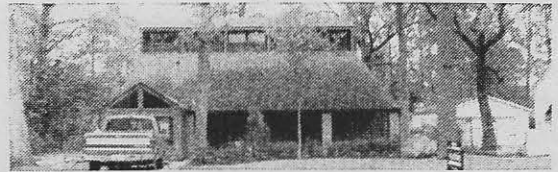
Not Pictured: 507 W. 32nd 4227 Apollo
236 W. 33rd 519 W. 33rd

WHAT'S FOR SALE

It's even more fun for a Real Estate firm to brag about the houses they have for sale. Again, Suzanne Debien, REALTORS is no exception to that rule of thought. They are particularly proud to offer some of the following houses for sale in Garden Oaks:



839 Azalea



328 W. 32nd



3213 Lawerance



1003 W. 43rd



219 W. 31st



706 W. 32nd



335 W. 31st



523 W. 34th

Not Pictured: 328 W. 32nd 813 W. 32nd
232 W. 33rd 324 W. 33rd

WE ALSO HAVE HOMES AVAILABLE IN THESE
NEAR-BY DESIRABLE NEIGHBORHOODS:

Shepherd Park Plaza
Timbergrove Manor
Shepherd Forest

Oak Forest
The Heights
Norhill

MEET OUR ASSOCIATES

One of the most important aspects of making a successful real estate company is ambitious and dedicated REALTOR associates who keep informed, attend educational classes and seminars. The "Debien Group" works to give service with a personal touch and is always accessible to you. Suzanne likes to refer to the following group of her professional REALTOR associates as "Ambassadors" to the neighborhoods of near northwest Houston:

Linda Ross is the administrative and public relations manager at Suzanne Debien, REALTORS. She is a member of the Houston Association of REALTORS and the Texas Association of REALTORS. Linda and her husband, John, have lived in Garden Oaks for ten years. They have a five year old daughter named Amy. Linda has been licensed as a REALTOR for five years and is the company representative for Garden Oaks Section Three. Her background includes thirteen years experience in retail management. She earned a degree from Texas Woman's University and attended graduate school at the University of Houston. Her schedule includes a variety of volunteer work with the Red Cross, the Houston Harris County Fair, the American Sewing Guild and Seaspace. Her hobbies include sewing, crafts and water sports, especially scuba diving.

Linda Villarreal has been a licensed REALTOR for ten years. She is a member of the Houston Association of REALTORS and the Texas Association of REALTORS. For the past eighteen years, Linda, her husband, Raul, and their family have lived in Oak Forest subdivision. Linda's daughter, Monica, is following in her mother's footsteps by planning a career in real estate. Linda's son, Victor, is attending Southwest Texas Junior College and her son, Carlo, attends Black Middle School in Oak Forest. Linda and Raul have one grandchild. In her leisure time, Linda enjoys reading, sewing and naturally, her granddaughter.

Charlee Peddicord was licensed as a REALTOR in 1984. She has already earned a designation from the Graduate REALTORS Institute and is working on her Certified Residential Specialist designation. Charlee has lived in the near northwest area for twenty-five years. She is a member of the Houston Association of REALTORS and the Texas Association of REALTORS, and is known to be very civic oriented. Charlee and her husband, John McCormick, (both true pet lovers), live in Inwood Forest with their three "canine children". Charlee is a graduate of Texas Tech University.

Linda Landry retired from management at A.T. & T. and has been a REALTOR for two years. She is a Garden Oaks's resident, who has lived in Houston for twenty years. She is a member of the Executive and Professional Association of Houston, the Houston Association of REALTORS and the Texas Association of REALTORS. Her professional background includes twenty years of experience in telecommunications with Southwestern Bell and A.T. & T. Linda shares her Garden Oaks home with "Strudel", a calico cat and "Peanut", a miniature dachhound. Her hobbies include many outdoor activities; gardening, fishing, home improvement projects and golf. Vacations always include stops to play the area's golf courses.

Laura Parsons has been licensed in the real estate industry for one year. Laura and her husband, Chris, and sons, Brian and Richard, live in Ella Lee Forest subdivision. Chris is a partner in Deloitte and Touche. He is a CPA and specializes in individual tax planning, retirement planning; and estates, gifts, and trusts. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA), the Advisory Board of the Children's Museum and the Development Board of the Institute of Texas Culture in San Antonio. Laura has been active in community, church and school activities for many years. She is currently serving a three-year term on the St. Rose of Lima school board, where she is the development committee chairman. She is a member of the Houston Association of REALTORS and the Texas Association of REALTORS. Laura and Chris are originally from Gilmer, Texas and are both graduates of the University of Texas.

Peggy (P.J.) Rohde started as an assistant to the agents. P.J. is a Garden Oaks resident, has a real estate broker's license and twelve years of experience in real estate related businesses including property management, loan servicing and apartment location. P.J. now heads the apartment locating department for Suzanne Debien, REALTORS. She holds a BBA in finance from Sam Houston State University. P.J. is a member of the Houston Association of REALTORS and the Texas Association of REALTORS.

Veronica Maya Cantu is an assistant to Suzanne Debien, REALTORS. She grew up in Section One of Garden Oaks with a house full of siblings. The current count is two brothers and seven sisters. She is a Waltrip Senior High School V.O.E. student who works for Suzanne every day from 1:00 P.M. to closing time. Veronica will graduate in June and will join the company as a full time staff member.

SUZANNE DEBIEN, REALTORS AND GARDEN OAKS (Continued from page 2)

Working in the neighborhood, Suzanne Debien, REALTORS originated the idea of the "Light Up Christmas" contest in Garden Oaks, and has co-sponsored it since the beginning. They donated the first Yard of the Month sign, and are also a sponsor of the Garden Oaks Home Tour. In addition, Suzanne Debien, REALTORS is a member of the Greater Heights Chamber of Commerce and has made donations to the Heights Festival booth. The firm has provided bright gold tee shirts for the Garden Oaks Citizens on Patrol. It features a customized C.O.P. logo designed by Garden Oaks resident and graphic designer Doug Wilson. In addition, they established the Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award in 1989. This quarterly award is presented to residents whose civic manner in dealing with others makes them a "Good Neighbor".

All of these pro-active qualities and many more are what makes Suzanne Debien, REALTORS a professional and successful real estate company working in your area.

FOR THE SELLER...

OUR PLEDGE OF QUALITY

Suzanne Debien, REALTORS will work for you full-time, as your professional Real Estate company, to sell your house for the highest possible price, in the least amount of time, using our expertise to make this a smooth and pleasant transaction.

MARKETING your house we will:

- * Submit detailed facts, highlighting your house's best features, to the Multiple Listing Service, other area brokers, sales associates and serious prospective buyers. Send direct mail listing announcements to surrounding communities and neighborhoods.
- * advertise in the best media to reach the particular buyers for your home.
- * Promote your house to everyone we meet personally or professionally!

SHOWING your house we will:

- * Consider all serious prospective buyers, qualify them in advance (if our buyer) and counsel them in every possible financial alternative.
- * Carefully follow up on anyone who previews your house.
- * Counsel you on all offers and negotiate the best possible price for you.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED we will:

- * Notify you (in advance when possible) of any request to show your house.
- * Provide you with a written copy of any documents you may sign.
- * Explain in detail all instruments, transactions and procedures.
- * Accompany you to settlement, counseling you through the entire process.

FINDING you a new home we will:

- * Use our marketing and financial expertise to present every option and financial alternative in buying a new home.
- * Contact the cooperating broker, if you are moving to a new area, coordinating the sale here with the buying of your new home there.
- * Show you every home available which fits your needs whether it is part of the Multiple Listing Service, or offered for sale by owners.

SERVING YOU

Suzanne Debien, REALTORS has proven their commitment to improving, and "giving back" to the neighborhoods in which they live and work. Projects such as the Good Neighbor Awards, collecting toys for Nancy Clancy, and supporting the area civic clubs are evidence of this fact.

Suzanne Debien, REALTORS is determined to be the best! They are working to give their Buyers and Sellers excellent service. Visit the office and meet Suzanne, her agents, and staff. Inspect the "state of the art" telephone and information systems. Read from their extensive subdivision files about the history of Garden Oaks and current news, such as the SPARK Park and Citizens on Patrol (COP). Ask your neighbors, chances are, they are already familiar with this growing real estate company whose owner strives for excellence in her own business transactions and sets an example for her own agents and other REALTORS to follow. Call Suzanne Debien, REALTORS, for any and all of your real estate needs.



Suzanne Debien

Serving Garden Oaks and
its Residents

861-5040

extension 222

**The SUZANNE DEBIEN
REAL ESTATE REPORT**

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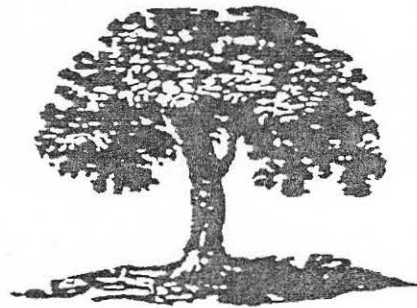
HOUSTON WOMAN



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