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Garden Oaks Gazette

Vol. 14, No. 7

Circulation 1650

July 1991

Education: Focus Of July 2 Meeting

Paula Arnold, President of the HISD School Board and Garden Oaks representative, will address the Garden Oaks Civic Club on **Tuesday, July 2** at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be served at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting commencing at 7:15 p.m.

Don't miss your chance to hear which issues are before the School Board, and the status of a replacement for Garden Oaks Elementary School principal Jean Dodd, who retired at the end of this school year.

Garden Oaks Needs YOU!

We need more C.O.P. patrollers so we can increase our hours and visibility on the street. We also need administrative people, so if you cannot get out and patrol, but want to help fight crime, call us for more information: **Anita Scherer at 956-7809** or **Jaime Pierce at 688-3237**. Please call, you'll be glad you did!

Home Tour Memorabilia Available

It is not too late to get your 1991 Home Tour T-Shirts and Posters. T-Shirts come in S, M, L, and XL and are only \$10. Signed and numbered posters designed by Garden Oaks resident Karen Benson are available for \$10 or \$20 for a hand-colored poster. Call **Anita Scherer at 956-7809** to get yours before they disappear, or come to the next Civic Club meeting.

In case you missed the showing of the video Hometown Houston featuring Garden Oaks, the 30 minute video will be shown at the August meeting. In addition, a copy will be available to be checked out for viewing by Garden Oaks residents. The feature highlights what makes Garden Oaks unique and what has drawn and kept residents here throughout its history. Call **956-7809** for details.

Don't forget that baby-sitting is available for \$1.00 per child during the business portion of the meeting. Please don't forget to pay!

Exciting things are happening each month! Watch for signs around the neighborhood that announce various Civic Club events and activities.

Heights Festival Approaches

That's right folks; it's time to start thinking about the Garden Oaks Booth at the Heights Festival. This year the festival will be **Sunday, October 6** from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For the past three years, the civic club has sponsored a soft drink and ice cream booth at this festival to promote awareness of our neighborhood and to raise money. It is always a lot of fun.

We will need a festival chairperson to coordinate this event, volunteers to work the booth, and donations of canned drinks or money. Be thinking about how you would like to help and watch for future details in the *Gazette*.

P.I.P. Meetings Open to Everyone

What is a P.I.P. Meeting, you ask? P.I.P. stands for Positive Interaction Program, which is sponsored by the Houston Police Department. It is through this program that we have our Citizens on Patrol. The North Shepherd Police Station has monthly P.I.P. meetings at the North Shepherd Courthouse Annex. These meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30. There is a different program at each meeting, such as the D.A.R.E. program for schools, the Juvenile Court System, and crime in our area. It is a chance for citizens to ask questions and speak directly with the officers that patrol our neighborhood. It is also a good chance to meet people from other civic organizations and learn about their neighborhoods. The meetings are also where the C.O.P. Crime Figures for the *Gazette* are obtained.

1992 Slate of Officers

Even though it is only July, it is not too early to be thinking about next year's officers and chairpersons. We will start our campaign by selecting a nominating committee in September. This committee will then present a slate of officers in October, to be voted on in November. The new term will begin in January of 1992. If you are interested in being part of the nominating committee or running for office, call **Jaime at 688-3237** or **Anita at 956-7809**.

Terry Jeanes

your Garden Oaks neighbor and area specialist

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President's Message

As mentioned elsewhere in the *Gazette*, the Citizens On Patrol Program is having its annual training session, **Tuesday, July 9**. This session is important for two reasons; it will serve to initiate new volunteers into the program, and it will re-certify those who have participated in the program.

Please welcome **Trish Webb**, who has graciously volunteered to coordinate the C.O.P. program. As you may know, this program has been running without a coordinator for nine months. A core group of dedicated individuals has been keeping the program alive. On behalf of the community, I thank them for continuing to volunteer their time to protect Garden Oaks. They are:

Edie and Steve Abbey
Wayne and Nell Armstrong
Norris Carle
Rita Donaldson
Rob Epstein
Joan Fudge
N. Jade Gillen
Mike Gonzales
Lydia Jasso
LaVerne and V. D. Kelley
Dennis and Doris Koebelen
Craig Kramer
Willard Mills
Ralph Myers
Jaime Pierce
Edith Rider
John and Linda Ross
Richard Sonner
Earl Thomas
Mildred Warhol
Shirley Wilson

Do you have 2 - 4 hours a month that you can give to the neighborhood to help with this program? We need patrollers, base station operators, and area coordinators. Come to the July 9 meeting and see what C.O.P. involves. Let's get the program back on its feet. We need you!

Anita Scherer

Gazette Ad Rates

\$35 per month - \$175 - 6 months

\$325 - 1 year

Deadline for August Gazette is July 10

Citizens On Patrol Training Session Scheduled July 9

Have you been wanting to help with the Citizens On Patrol program, but didn't know how? Are you willing to donate 2-4 hours a month to help deter crime in our neighborhood? Do you stay at home during the day and keep an eye out for your neighbors' homes? If you already patrol or used to patrol, are you ready for a refresher course?

Then you need to come to the C.O.P. Training Session **Tuesday, July 9, 7 p.m.** at Garden Oaks Baptist Church. Officer Boney will review the requirements for participation in the program. The C.O.P. Program is sponsored by the Houston Police Department. Its premise is neighbors watching out for neighbors.

Patrollers, base station operators and area coordinators are needed for the revitalization of the C.O.P. program. Our new coordinator is **Trish Webb**, and she will be wrestling with the reorganization of the program to keep crime out of Garden Oaks. If you are even the **least** bit interested in this program, come to the training session or call **Trish Webb** at **683-8461** for more details.

All patrollers will patrol the area that they are most familiar with, the area where they live. Garden Oaks is divided into three areas: Section 1 is Area 1; Sections 2, 3 and Garden Oaks Plaza are Area 2; and Sections 4 & 5 are Area 3. All equipment (CB radios, signs, antennas, etc) is provided by the police department.

Certification of training is necessary to participate in the C.O.P. program. This can be achieved either by attending the training session or by patrolling with someone who has already been trained. Even if you attended last year's training session, an annual refresher course is required.

Although Garden Oaks has low crime compared to other areas around us, any crime is too much crime. Our Citizens On Patrol Program really works! Crime is deterred when there are visual signs that the neighborhood is on watch. Come to the meeting July 9 and see how you can help make Garden Oaks a crime free neighborhood.

The Garden Oaks Gazette is printed on recycled paper.





Notes From the Garden

Last month I suggested using mulch to control weed problems in your flower or vegetable beds, and I promised more this month on the "why's and how's" of proper mulching.

Mulch controls weeds by effectively burying the seeds so deeply that they don't germinate properly. The seeds may sprout, but the sprouts deplete the food supply stored in the seed casing before they can reach the sunlight and rejuvenate themselves. The baby plants literally starve to death. This means that mulch has to be reasonably thick to work well. A three inch layer is a good target to shoot for. When the occasional weed does complete its journey to the surface, it can generally be pulled out quite easily.

One of the best (and most attractive) materials for mulch is shredded pine bark, which is available in big bags at nurseries and garden supply stores all over town. Pine bark is particularly good for mulching azaleas. As the bark decomposes it helps to make the soil more acidic - and azaleas love acid soil. The biggest problem with pine bark mulch is that it costs money.

If you don't want to ante up the cost of "store-bought" mulch, you can use materials from around your own yard and mulch for free! At certain times of the year, most of us in Garden Oaks only have to look out of our front door to find a nice supply of pine needles, and pine needles are just as good as pine bark for mulch. You pick them up with a bagger on your lawn mower, which shreds them a little bit in the process.

Grass clippings also make a good mulch material, but you need to be careful about overdoing it. If fresh grass clippings are matted too thickly, they tend to turn into a gooey, rotten mess, rather than decomposing naturally. Grass clippings should be added in layers of an inch or two at a time, and each layer should be allowed to dry out before another layer is added.

Shredded leaves work well, but be careful not to use an overabundance of pecan or magnolia leaves. Pecans and magnolias have a chemical makeup which might have adverse effects on the plants you're mulching around. Oak leaves are terrific.

Don't use plastic to mulch in Houston. It won't allow water to pass through and it traps heat so badly that it can fry the roots of your good shrubs and veggies.

If you mulch your plants well, you'll be doing a big favor for them as well as for yourself. The decomposing mulch feeds the plant, while the layer of protection helps conserve moisture and moderates the soil temperature. You'll benefit from lower water bills and fewer trips to the chiropractor to cure the back problems brought on by too much weeding.

The "new" community garden is now in business, so next month I'll have some real news. Until then, see you at the garden!

Jan Koenig



Heard Under the Oak Tree

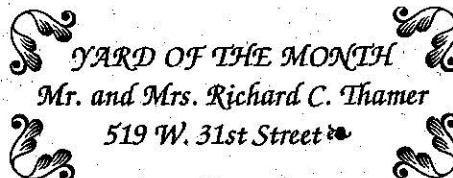
Congratulations to **Pat Streeter** and **Ron Evensen** of Section 4, who were married in May.

Wanda Morgan of Section 4 will be retiring from her career in Education after 34 years this summer and moving to Nacogdoches. Congratulations on your retirement, Wanda. We will miss you.

Judy Camp and her band of real estate agents and friends spent two hot days giving a Section 4 house a facelift. It looks great!

Anne Kilgore of Section 2 won the door prize - a fire extinguisher - at the June Civic Club meeting. Hope you never have to use it!

We have a videotape of the piece on Garden Oaks done for the Municipal Channel's Hometown Houston. Some of you viewed it at the June Civic Club meeting. For those who missed it, stay tuned, we'll play it again.



Jane Warner

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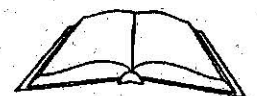


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Printer of our Gazette

Recycling Report

March 1991 Totals



		Pounds	Amount
PAPER:	Ledger, White	1160	\$ 23.20
	Computer	110	\$ 8.80
	Newsprint	0	\$ 0.00
METALS:	Aluminum cans 449		\$134.70
	Mixed aluminum	16	\$ 4.48
	Batteries	9	\$ 11.25
	Iron	16	\$ 0.16
	Copper	8	\$ 1.92
	#2 Copper	2	\$ 1.44
	Lead	10	\$ 0.80
GLASS:		4860	\$109.35
*PLASTIC:		0	\$ 0.00
TOTALS:		20150	\$341.85

Previously unavailable figures for paper

FEBRUARY:	Ledger	260	\$ 7.35
	Computer	130	\$ 9.10
	Newsprint	6260	\$ 12.52
MARCH:	Ledger	120	\$ 3.30
	Computer	0	\$ 0.00
	Newsprint	674	\$ 13.48

*Due to the low price per pound for plastics the recycler will be releasing weights and dollar amounts quarterly.

Scott Van Fleet

Please remember to take the lids off of glass and plastic containers and take the newspapers out of their plastic bags. Also, magazines and phone books cannot be recycled. Thank you for your participation in our program.

Special "get well" wishes go to **Tim Pagel** of **Section 4**, who injured his back. The June pick-up day wasn't the same without you!

Jaime Connor Pierce

C.O.P. Crimewatch

March 1991

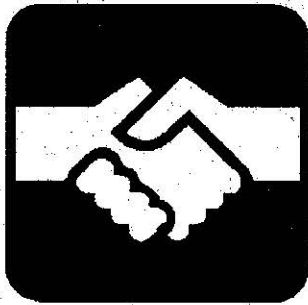
Area	Crime	Block	Street	Date	Time
1	Burglary	3200	Randall	4/14	1320
1	AutoTheft	300	W. 31st	4/02	2015
2	Robbery	900	Sue Barnett	4/22	1815
3	Burglary	900	W. 41st	4/24	0630
3	Burglary	1000	W. 43rd	4/02	0800
3	Burglary	1000	W. 43rd	4/12	0800
3	Auto Theft	1000	W. 43rd	4/18	2035

Patrol Hours:

Area 1 28.50 Area 2 14.50 Area 3 11.25

TOTAL CRIMES: 7 TOTAL HOURS PATROLLED: 54.25

Note: To obtain more information on the C.O.P. Program, call **Trish Webb** at **683-8461** or **Anita Scherer** at **956-7809**. We need volunteers!



Thanks, Neighbor!

Junior Recyclers **Rolf and Bernie Sheffler** of Section 2 worked very hard on recycling day in June. Their dad, Bob, loans us his trailer every month, which makes our work MUCH easier. Thank you Shefflers.

Thank you to **Steve Fox, Mike Warner, and Mark Stubbs** of Garden Oaks Plaza for mowing the 43rd Street/Sue Barnett park. That is quite a job! (The City is supposed to mow it, but hasn't gotten to it yet).

Another big thank you to **Dale Maxfield** for mowing Friendship Park at Lawrence and 30th. Garden Club ladies **Katherine Hardin, Christine Winkelmann, and Bell Katzer** cleaned the flower beds at Friendship Park. Thank you all.

Thank you **State Representative Ken Yarbrough** for updating us on the status of the Texas Legislature at the June Civic Club meeting. In case you missed this informative meeting and have some questions, his district office is **2817 West T. C. Jester, 681-1300**. Also, thank you Representative Yarbrough for donating 100 trees to our neighborhood.

Thank you **Treeseach Farms** for donating 24 fruit trees to the Community Garden. Now the produce to the homeless shelters can include fresh fruits as well as vegetables.

Thank you all who donated items to the Garden Oaks Plaza Garage Sale. The Garden Oaks Plaza Civic Club used the money raised for an entrance sign into their neighborhood.

Darrell Murphy, Manager of AppleTree on 43rd Street, has come through for us once again. Mr. Murphy donates refreshments for our civic club meetings whenever he is asked, such as at our June meeting. He also helped make our Home Tour a success by donating the lemonades sold at each home and the cups, too. We really appreciate his generosity and community spirit.

Beautification Meeting

The Garden Oaks Beautification Committee will meet on **Wednesday, July 10, at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of **Jan Koenig, 407 W. 34th Street**.

If you want to become a member of this committee, or if you want to volunteer for a project, call **Jan at 869-8997**.

Editor's Notes

Well, there's good news and bad news about the *Gazette* survey which was in the June *Gazette*. The bad news is I received very few responses. The good news is that those were all positive. I plan to run it again in the future, but you can call or write at any time to give me your views. You can do so anonymously as well. I did receive a suggestion to run a pet care column, which I have been considering for some time. People can send in articles to be printed in this column. I plan to run it for the first time in August. As always, I'm open to your comments. My address and phone appear on the back page.

Let me hear from you!

Jaime Connor Pierce

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July Birthdays

- 2 Abigail Armstrong, 2 yrs.
- 6 Amanda Mitchell, 9 yrs.
- 10 Jack Peden, 5 yrs.
- 11 Annie Newlin, 2 yrs.
- 11 Brian Byers, 2 yrs.
- 11 Ollie Watson, ?
- 12 Scott MacClymonds, ?
- 15 Bill McMillian, ?
- 18 Karl Duncan, ?
- 25 Matthew Welker, 4 yrs.
- 26 Kelly Benson, 4 yrs.
- 26 Joshua Marek, 8 yrs.
- 28 Susan MacMillian, ?
- 29 Erin Person, 3 yrs.

Belated birthday greetings to:

- Lisa Howie, May 25
- Charlie Dickson, May 27
- Mark Conover, June 19

New Baby

Michael Damen Sherwood was born May 22 to Brian and Denise Sherwood of Section 5. Michael weighed in at 8 lbs 7 oz, was 20 inches long, and made Brett a proud big brother. Congratulations!

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Garden Oaks Civic Club Numbers

Anita Scherer, President
4223 Apollo • 956-7809

Jaime Connor Pierce,
1st Vice President & Editor
958 Gardenia • 688-3237

Jennifer Day, Vice President,
Membership
717 W. 42nd • 699-8417

Cindy Ballard, Assistant Editor
717 W. 41st Street • 697-6244

Arv and Barbara Vilutis,
Treasurers • 692-0581

Jan Koenig, Secretary
869-8997

July Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Civic Club 7:00 pm	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9 C.O.P. Training 7:00 pm	10 Gazette deadline 8:00 pm Beautification meeting 8:00 pm	11	12	13 Recycle Pick-up 8:00 am
14	15	16 Heavy Trash Pick-up	17	18 P.I.P. Meeting 7:30 pm	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Board of Trustees

Representatives

James J. Doyle;
President 694-4134

Section I David Easterling 862-1661
 Section II Susan McMillian 695-8245
 Section III David Veselka 692-1384
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The Garden Oaks Civic would
like to welcome the following new
members and first timers:

Gail Slaughter	Section 1
Tom Mehrkam	Section 5
Nadine Straub	Section 4
Karen Stewart	Section 4
Peri Mashburn	Section 1

Thank you for attending the June
meeting. Hope to see you again
soon.