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Garden Oaks Gazette

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August 1991

Watermelon Social August 6

The August Civic Club meeting will be held at **Graham Park (located at W. 34th and Lawrence Streets in Section 1 of Garden Oaks)** at 7:00 p.m. on **August 6** in honor of National Night Out. A watermelon social, sponsored by the Citizens On Patrol committee, is planned directly after the short business meeting.

Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award

The votes have been tabulated and the 1991 2nd quarter Garden Oaks Good Neighbor has been named. **Mrs. Louise Knox** is the winner of this quarter's award. She was nominated by her neighbors, **Kyle & Jenny Self**, who describe her as a "remarkable lady." They say that Ms. Knox's immaculate yard puts young men to shame! Ms. Knox is a retired teacher. She worked many years at Garden Oaks Elementary School and recounts many incidents that occurred there and in the neighborhood.

The judges were Dr. Donald Goodwin, Pastor of St. Matthew's Methodist Church; Councilman Larry McKaskle, of District A which includes Garden Oaks; and Roseanne Oelfke, Marketing Director of Northwest Memorial Hospital.

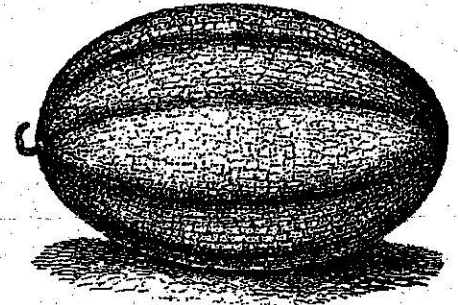
Many Garden Oaks residents have been previously selected as recipients of the Good Neighbor Award. Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Goodson were nominated for the 3rd quarter of 1990, by Jan Koenig and Lynn Langston for their "living history lessons and emergency baby-

The purpose of National Night Out is to meet your neighbors and promote crime prevention. The best way to do that is to know who lives around you. Therefore, the challenge before you this month is to bring someone new to the meeting - you may even win a prize!

Remember to bring a lawn chair, a neighbor, and plenty of bug spray. Babysitting will be available to supervise children on the play equipment for \$1.00 per child. See you there!

sitting." Mr. Sammie Broadrick was winner of the 4th quarter. He was nominated by Jaime Pierce who cited Sammie as being civic minded and involved in numerous neighborhood projects. Mr. Joe Miles was winner of the first quarter of 1991. He was nominated by his neighbor Glenda McKinney for his true concern for his neighbors.

The Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award is sponsored by Suzanne Debien, REALTORS, Inc. and Cavatore Italian Restaurant. Winners receive a lovely handmade certificate and dinner for 4 at Cavatore. Nominations for the third quarter Good Neighbor Award will be accepted until August 16. The winner will be announced in September. For more information, contact Suzanne Debien, REALTORS, Inc. at 861-5040 x 224. Letters of nomination may be submitted to Suzanne Debien, REALTORS, Inc. at 1235 North Loop West #1215, Houston, Texas 77008.



P.I.P. Meeting Location Changes

The Positive Interaction Program meetings, held by the North Shepherd Substation of the Houston Police Department, have moved. They will now be held at **Our Savior Lutheran Church, 4425 North Shepherd**. They will still be held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m., the next meeting being on **August 15**. Everyone is welcome to come hear these informative and interesting programs, and to ask questions of the officers.

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President's Message

Education is a subject that concerns a majority of residents in Garden Oaks. So it was encouraging to hear Paula Arnold, President of HISD School Board, speak about the future of the school system at the last Civic Club meeting. She was very inspiring to those of us who want to get involved in the public school system. How many of you will join the PTA in the fall after hearing her speak?

Since my son has not entered the public school arena yet, I really cannot comment on what HISD offered for Garden Oaks before. As for the future, I am optimistic that with people like Paula Arnold, Jeannie Daniels (the newly appointed principal of Garden Oaks Elementary), and Dr. Frank Petruzielo (the new HISD superintendent), and Garden Oaks parents (who are actively involved with the education of their children) working together, HISD can offer the Garden Oaks community a good, if not great, quality of education. Take up the challenge of educating the future of Garden Oaks, join the PTA, volunteer at the neighborhood schools, helping with their fundraising activities, but do something!

The August meeting of the Garden Oaks Civic Club happens to coincide with National Night Out. This is a day set aside to get out of the house and meet your neighbors in an effort to promote neighborhood watch programs for crime prevention. The Citizens On Patrol committee will be sponsoring a watermelon get-together at the August Civic Club meeting which will be held at Graham Park. I promise that the meeting will be short so that there will be plenty of time to socialize. Here is the chance you've been waiting for to meet your neighbors and exchange phone numbers. Afterwards continue the social on your block. I challenge each one of you to introduce someone new to the meeting. There may even be a special prize for the one who brings the most first-time attendees or first-time-in-a-long-time attendees! I look forward to seeing you there!

Anita

Anita Scherer

C.O.P. "Coming Out"

In A Big Way

Our annual H.P.D. Training on July 9th for Garden Oaks C.O.P. went very well. "Thank you" to Officer Henry Alvarez for his informative and interesting talk to our group. We had 58 volunteers at our meeting! "Thank you" to all who attended. It was a successful evening with a large number of our original members (someone commented, "The die-hards who would continue no matter what!") and a refreshing group of newcomers.

Everyone received a revised manual, a C.O.P. t-shirt, and a Garden Oaks C.O.P. notebook for individual record keeping. A special "thank you" to Suzanne Debien Realtors for donating our C.O.P. t-shirts and to Tom Merkhams, Area 3 Leader, for copying our new manuals, coming up with the clever idea for our record keeping books, and making our G.O.C.O.P. signs. Did you notice our fluorescent orange announcements throughout the neighborhood? Very hard to miss!

We will present our G.O.C.O.P. budget proposal to the Civic Club August 6th. I need you to come with your C.O.P. t-shirts on in BIG numbers! This will show our continued support and growth in our G.O.C.O.P. program and help us to receive the BIG numbers we will be asking for to fund our incentive program and our meetings/parties! After our budget approval (positive thinking produces positive outcomes), the G.O.C.O.P. will have a small ceremony to kick-off our new program and thank the original group that has held together for so long.

One last word, for those of you who could not make the training meeting, I will be happy to arrange for training. It will take 30 minutes of your time one evening. Training will be available to you within a week after notifying either your Area Leader or myself of your interest to participate.

All of you who attended the July 9th meeting know about our plans and enthusiasm for G.O.C.O.P., so invite your neighbors and friends to come with you to our August 6th NATIONAL NIGHT OUT meeting/party at Graham Park and get involved in our plans for the future and have some watermelon with us. We Are Coming Out In A Big Way!



Notes

From the Garden

The new community garden is slowly beginning to emerge from the undergrowth (overgrowth?) at the old water tower site on Alba, just north of Sue Barnett. So far, our biggest accomplishment has been to disassemble the beds from the old location at the school and reassemble them at the new site. That may not sound like much, until you consider that each of the five, forty-foot-long beds was constructed of twenty-five landscape timbers and eight two-by-fours, and that all of the pieces were permanently locked together with twelve-inch-long spikes. Moving those monsters was tough!

We wound up cutting each bed into two twenty-foot-long sections, and then moving five sections at a time on a big flatbed truck. Fortunately, I had some help. Unfortunately, most of the help came from outside of Garden Oaks. **Billy Scherer** and **Sammie Broadrick** donated their muscle-power, but no one else from the neighborhood made it over.

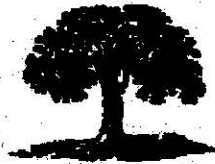
Our garden was the beneficiary of a donation of twenty-four fruit trees from Treesearch Farms. These are orphan trees, but they seem to be healthy orphans. When Treesearch culls their crops after the spring planting season, they are forced to either give away or throw away the trees that are not cosmetically attractive enough to hold over and sell the following year. We're thankful that they chose to give them to the Community Garden Program. We received a nice variety of trees (peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines, Asian pears, traditional pears, and a pretty, but lonely apple) most of which appear to be about two years old. I've planted them at the back end of the water tower site. After a couple of growing seasons and a bit of pruning, we should have a fine little orchard.

We ordered and received a big load of soil mix for the new beds, but each bed takes about thirty-five wheelbarrow

loads of dirt, and as of yet I haven't had the time and energy (or the help) to move it. Our water meter was set a couple of months ago, and I've hooked up a system that will allow us to irrigate the orchard area in addition to the beds. Some work remains to be done, but the system as it exists now will keep the trees from dying of thirst.

It's been more than a little bit disappointing to have such a small amount of community involvement in the garden so far - but I haven't given up hope. I have a few ideas to try, but I'm wide open to suggestions from you neighbors out there about how we can increase participation. Give me a call during the day at 236-5074 or in the evening at 869-8997 if you have any ideas. And by all means, please give me a call if you would like to help. See you at the garden!

Jan Koenig



Heard Under the Oak Tree

Brian, Denise, Brett and Michael Sherwood of Section 5 are not moving to California after all. Glad you're staying!

Richard Broad of Section 4 won a great door prize at the July Civic Club meeting. It was the *Green Consumer's Shopping Guide*. Maybe next time it will be you!

Georgann Paul has been chosen as cheerleader for Lanier Middle School and **Kelly Acosta** will be a cheerleader at Seton Middle School. Congratulations!

Happy Anniversary to **Sammie and Carol Broadrick** of Section 4, who will celebrate 22 years of marriage on August 4.

Celebrating 6 years of wedded bliss on August 17th are **Scott and Jamie Pierce** of Section 4. Congratulations!

Do You Own a Dog?

If so, you may be just what C.O.P. needs. C.O.P. is our Citizens On Patrol group and we are in need of patrollers. If you walk your dog, jog, walk with a neighbor, or ride a bike regularly, please call **Trish Webb** at 683-8461 to sign up for C.O.P. Your regular routine is the key to our safe neighborhood.

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May 1991

Area	Crime	Block	Street	Date	Time
1	Auto Theft	300	W. 31st	5/03	0900
3	Auto Theft	900	W. 43rd	5/15	2100
1	Burglary	400	W. 33rd	5/23	0925
1	Burglary	500	W. 30th	5/16	0725
1	Burglary	500	W. 34th	5/23	1800
2	Burglary	700	W. 41st	4/24	1200

Patrol Hours:

Area 1 17.50 Area 2 14.75 Area 3 8.75

TOTAL CRIMES: 6 TOTAL HOURS PATROLLED: 41

As you can see, as the patrol hours go down, the crime goes up. Do your part and join the C.O.P. today.

Correction: Last month's Crimewatch read "March", but it was actually April. The dates were correct.

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Recycling Report

June 1991 Totals

		Pounds	Amount
PAPER:	Ledger, White	250	\$ 6.75
	Computer	700	\$ 14.70
	Newsprint	0	\$ 0.00
METALS:	Aluminum cans	365	\$ 83.95
	Mixed aluminum	21	\$ 3.72
TOTALS:		1,336	\$ 109.12



The figures for newsprint, glass, and plastic were not available at press time.
Scott Van Fleet

Thank you to everyone who participates in Garden Oaks' Recycling Day. I want to give you some figures to show you how important our work is. **Each ton of recycled paper that is used instead of virgin paper saves 17 trees, decreases land-fill waste by 41%, reduces energy usage by 55%, and reduces air pollution by 95%! So let's keep up the good work!**

Jaime

Interior Lifestyles Decorating

KITCHEN DECORATING

by Jane Warner

The kitchen is the center of family activity in almost every home. This means that the kitchen should not only be planned functionally, but should be given some priority when decorating your home.

Many kitchens are designed to maximize storage space. Take advantage of today's cabinets- they are better than ever! Place items close to where they are used most. If your cabinets have glass fronts, plan their use carefully. This is a great place for china, glasses or other items which create a stacked or organized look. If there aren't enough cabinets in your kitchen, consider adding an old cupboard or baker's rack. It will provide an interesting focal point and give you the extra space you need.

Wallcovering adds color and pattern to the room. Vinyl or vinyl coated paper is great for the kitchen. Today's wallcoverings are both washable and even scrubbable, making for easy clean-up. Furthermore, border papers are wonderful accents and can be put almost anywhere - at the ceiling and chairrail, around the windows and doors, even above the baseboard. Borders are great with coordinating wallpaper or on a painted wall. They are easy to put up and can add a lot of spark to a room for very little money.

Window treatments in the kitchen work area should be simple and out of the way. Pleated shades are an excellent choice because they won't absorb grease or dirt. Mini-blinds, vertical blinds and shutters are also good choices. You can add valances or top treatments for a complete look. Another super idea is to use laminated coordinating fabric for chair seats and a tablecloth.

Finally, for a special touch, bring some collectibles into your kitchen. You may choose china, antiques, photographs, needlepoint pieces, or anything you find interesting. Try to stay with the common theme. Just remember; reflect your own "taste" in your kitchen and your kitchen will truly reflect you.



Befriend Our Earth

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

This summer, make your motto "Don't Bag It". How many of you use a grass catcher on your lawn mower? It takes at least twice as long to mow your lawn, and then you have to fill up plastic garbage bags with the clippings and haul them to the street. A survey performed in Fort Worth last summer indicated that as much as 50% of the solid wastes in certain neighborhoods is comprised of yard waste!

Also last summer, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service started a "Don't Bag It" lawn care plan. The guidelines of the plan are as follows:

1. Mow your lawn every 5-6 days, cutting only one third of the blade at a time.
2. Apply 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. Half of the nitrogen should be slow release.
3. Provide an inch of water for your lawn once a week in the driest part of summer.

Following these guidelines will produce a healthy, self-fertilizing lawn, and will save you a lot of work, too!

National Night Out

August 6, Tuesday, is NATIONAL NIGHT OUT in Houston. The Garden Oaks C.O.P. is combining efforts with the Civic Club for a joint meeting and to celebrate NATIONAL NIGHT OUT. We will have a short Civic Club Meeting and a short ceremony for G.O.C.O.P., then watermelon and drinks to celebrate and participate in NATIONAL NIGHT OUT.

You can celebrate NATIONAL NIGHT OUT by bringing your neighbor with you to **Graham Park on 34th and Lawrence at 7:00 p.m.** Another way you can participate in NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is to turn your porch lights on at 6:00 p.m., then come to our meeting!

Steps for a successful NATIONAL NIGHT OUT:

1. Turn on your porch light at 6:00 p.m.
2. Load up the car with friends and neighbors and come to Graham Park at 7:00 p.m.
3. Visit with the neighborhood folk.
4. Eat watermelon.

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Man's Best Friends

Readers: This new column was suggested by several residents. It will give you a chance to pass on pet care tips



and voice your concerns about neighborhood pets.

The following is an excerpt from an Ann Landers column, sent to me by a reader who says that it is "very appropriate" for the *Gazette*.

Dear Ann Landers: I have been reading your column for years in the Birmingham Post-Herald and never felt the need to write, but I can't stop thinking about the man who shot two dogs on his property—and your reply. You said he must be some kind of a nut and should be watched. I disagree.

First, the dogs were on HIS property, and second, people who love their dogs don't let them run loose.

I have a lovely yard and no dogs. My neighbor has two dogs who do their business regularly on my lawn. Whenever I do yardwork, I step in it. The dogs are not to blame. It's the owner. How sad to make his pets hated in the neighborhood because he is too dumb or too lazy to see to it that they are trained properly. You're going to hear plenty about your answer to that one.--

Mrs. X

Dear Mrs X: Right you are.

Thanks, Neighbor!

Arv and Barbara Vilutis hired yardmen to mow the 43rd Street/Sue Barnett Park in June. Thank you!

Sammie Broadrick spent three days mowing Garden Oaks Boulevard. Great Job!

Hospitality Committee Report

Jane and Mike Warner, Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs, report that they are completely up to date in delivering the new neighbor packets to all new Garden Oaks residents. When they took over last year there was such a back-log that it took them a while to catch up (this means lots of people are moving into our wonderful neighborhood).

The "new neighbor packets" contain copies of our deed restrictions, "welcome letters" from the presidents of the Civic Club and Board of Trustees, important community phone numbers, and many other goodies. Thank you to Garden Properties, which provides the list of recently sold Garden Oaks properties, which the Warners use to issue packets. Thank you also to all the individuals and businesses who furnish the information for the packets. Most of all, thank you Jane and Mike for all your hard work distributing these important welcoming tools.

Not all new neighbors are on the list. If you bought your home without going through a realtor, for instance, you probably have not received a packet. If you have not received one for any reason, please call Jane or Mike Warner at 695-3839. Welcome to Garden Oaks!



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 the form on the back and mail to

Garden Oaks Civic Club

Jennifer Day

717 W. 42nd Street

Houston, Texas 77018



Beautification Report

Most of you have probably noticed the change in appearance of the 43rd Street esplanade at Sue Barnett since the first stage of our landscaping and "landsculpting" project was completed. If you haven't seen it, take a few minutes to drive by and think about how it looked three or four months ago. The grass needs to fill in some more, but the overall aesthetic appeal of the park has improved dramatically. Take a special look at the antique roses that were planted in front of the statue and in the middle of the long side of the triangle - they're going to be gorgeous when they mature a little bit!

We inadvertently created a drainage problem in the center of the park by adding the small hills, but the problem is manageable. We're already working on some possible low-cost solutions.

The city has committed to keeping the esplanade mowed, although we've had a delay in getting them to add it back to their schedule. Once they start, it should get mowed about once every three weeks. We have had to mow it a couple of times since the landscaping was completed, and I want to thank all of the folks who have helped out in keeping it under control. That park is almost an acre of land, so mowing it is no small chore.

The clean up day on July 6th was successful, but the clean up crew was way too small. We intend to have clean up days once a quarter, and I hope a few

more of you will get out and help us next time around in early October. At least the weather should be a little cooler. We'll try to publicize it better as well.

Jan Koenig

Let's Talk Trash

Several people have asked me to talk about our trash situation. It seems people are putting their trash out much too early, and it subsequently gets strewn about the neighborhood by dogs, cats, and other creatures, making quite a mess. I know about this firsthand. I always have to put my trash out the morning of trash day, Monday and Thursday. Some people say they don't have time for this, with rushing off to work. You might try this though: Have your trash all ready and waiting by the front door - inside - and when you leave in the morning it will only take a minute to carry it out to the curb. It works for me. Another problem occurs during holidays. People put their trash out, not realizing there will be no pickup, and then leave it out all weekend until the next pickup day. This happened over the Fourth of July and, in this heat, it became really rank. So, if you see that your trash is not going to be picked up, please take it back to your house until the next trash day. Finally, we are also having trouble with heavy trash day. **Heavy trash is picked up at your curb on the third Tuesday of each month. Items should not be placed out until the Sunday before the Tuesday.** The City will issue citations if violations are reported or cited by City personnel. After they have picked up, there will invariably be bits and pieces left. Please pick this up afterward. By following these guidelines, you will do your part to keep Garden Oaks looking beautiful.

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Address: _____
Children/Birthdates: _____
Years lived in Garden Oaks: _____

Phone: _____

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 \$25 Business Membership

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MAIL TO: JENNIFER DAY, 2nd V.P., MEMBERSHIP**



August Birthdays

- 1 Sarah Neill, 7 yrs.
- 4 James Mabry III, ?
- 6 Sarah Powers, 4 yrs.
- 7 Stephanie Smith, 1 yr!
- 14 Alan Dingus, 2 yrs.
- 16 Amy Marek, 6 yrs.
- 17 Laura Rhea, 7 yrs.
- 17 Brooke Alexander, 4 yrs.
- 17 James Mitchell, 7 yrs.
- 29 James Mabry IV, 5 yrs.

Belated birthday greetings to:
Leighnae Stewart, June 20

New Baby

Kevin Patrick Byers was born on June 25 to Patrick and Sylvia Byers of Section 3. He weighed in at 9 lbs., 10 ozs. and is welcomed by big brother Brian.

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 for 6 months

\$325 for 1 year

Deadline for September Gazette is August 10th

The Garden Oaks Civic Club would like to recognize the following people who attended the Civic Club meeting for the first time or first time in a long time:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Patrick & Heather King | Section 1 |
| Richard & Amy Broad | Section 4 |
| Cindy Corbran | Section 2 |
| Gary Korn | Section 2 |
| Doug Manner & Linda McDade | Section 1 |
| Mary Hecksel | Section 5 |
| Gay Tharp | Section 1 |
| Jo Ann & Ed Woods | Section 5 |
| Mr. & Mrs. W. Mehrkam | Section 5 |

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

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

August Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 National Night Out Civic Club Graham Park 7:00 pm	7	8	9	10 Recycle Pick-up 8:00 am Gazette deadline 8:00 pm
11	12	13	14	15 P.I.P. Meeting 7:30 pm	16	17
18	19	20 Heavy Trash Pick-up	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 |
| Section IV Willard Mills | 686-6592 |
| Section V Vee Gaines | 686-5042 |

Citizens On Patrol Numbers to Know

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| C.O.P. Coordinator | |
| Trish Webb | 683-8461 |
| Area 1 Leader | |
| David Epstein | 869-0128 |
| Area 2 Leader | |
| Joan Fudge | 692-8822 |
| Area 3 Leader | |
| Tom Merkhams | 688-4008 |

There are a few Garden Oaks Canvas Bags left. Call now to get yours before they are all gone! Call Jaime at 688-3237. You'll be glad you did!

Garden Oaks runners - let's ALL get together! Meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays at the 42nd/ Sue Barnett Pocket Park.



Call Tim Pagel at 686-4424