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Garden Oaks Gazette

Vol. 14, No. 10

Circulation 1650

October 1991

October Meeting Features New Elementary School Principal

The Garden Oaks Civic Club will meet Tuesday, **October 1, 1991 at 7:15 p.m.** at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. **Jeannie Daniels**, the new Garden Oaks Elementary School Principal, will be the featured speaker.

Refreshments will be served at 7:00 p.m. and the business meeting will begin at 7:15 p.m. Baby-sitting is provided for \$1.00 per child during the business portion of the meeting. A door prize will be given to a lucky Civic Club member, but you must attend to win. Membership is \$10.00 per household or \$5.00 for senior citizens. Please come and welcome Ms. Daniels to the neighborhood and hear her plans for Garden Oaks Elementary.

Garden Club News

The Garden Oaks Garden Club will meet on **Thursday, October 10, at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Marian Mabry, 717 W. 39th. We will discuss possible candidates for 1992 offices. Refreshments will be served. Come to our meeting and see what the Garden Club is all about!

Friendship Garden Park was so pleased to have all of its flower beds cleaned so nicely by members of the Garden Club in August. Those members included **Kermit and Candy Foster, Jackie Batis, Bell Katzer, Christine Winklemann, and Katherine Hardin**. A big "thank you" goes out to all members.

Nominating Committee Set

Jaime Pierce, David Ballard, Jennifer Day, Charlie Dickson, and Trish Webb will comprise a committee to nominate Civic Club officers for 1992. Civic Club offices are President, 1st Vice President (Membership), 2nd Vice President (Gazette), Secretary, and Treasurer. If you would like more information about what these offices entail, call any current Civic Club Officer.

Share your organizational skills with the community and get involved with this fun and dynamic organization. If you are interested in being an officer next year, call **Jaime Pierce at 688-3237**.

Neighborhood Protection Team Formed By City

The speaker at the September Civic Club meeting was **Ms. Toni Tanoos**, head of the newly formed Neighborhood Protection Team. This team consists of fifteen employees and three City Marshalls with "muscles, badges, and guns". Ms. Tanoos explained that the employees were pulled from various City departments to form one central body which will handle problems in our area. Other teams have been formed to handle other areas of the city. This way, there are smaller groups taking care of parts of the city instead of one group taking care of the whole city. The team handles problems such as general sanitation, dangerous buildings, and nuisances. If you have problems in these areas, please call **Toni Tanoos at 525-2525**.

Abandoned Building To Be Razed

The abandoned building on the corner of N. Shepherd and Loop 610 is scheduled to be torn down. The owner of the building, Dr. E. L. Crain, has asked the Garden Oaks community to keep an eye on the building since reports of people living in the building have been made. He has given permission to the police to remove anyone on the property. The building is no longer secured and has been reported to the Dangerous Building Department. If you see anyone lurking about the building, please call the **police general dispatch number 222-3131**.

Heavy trash violations are still handled by **Kathy Brown at 865-4158**. Remember, our heavy trash day is the third Tuesday of every month, and trash should not be placed at your curb before the Sunday prior. Homeowners placing trash at the curb sooner than this will be cited by the City.

If you did not receive your *Gazette* before the Civic Club meeting, we apologize. With vacations, Labor Day, and printing problems, we fell behind schedule. This caused some folks to think we were not having our regular Civic Club meeting. Look for your October *Gazette* to arrive at the end of September and, remember, the Civic Club meetings are always held on the first Tuesday of the month, unless that Tuesday is a holiday.

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President's Message

Why do you live in Garden Oaks? I was asked that question recently and wasn't sure how to answer. The obvious things that came to mind were: I live in Garden Oaks because it is close-in and convenient, and I live in Garden Oaks because I feel that the deed restrictions help to keep my property values stable. But there is more to it than that.

The person who posed that question offered his viewpoint that the people who live in Garden Oaks are "missing a gene" because they sacrifice the luxuries, the uniformity, and the security that they could have living in the suburbs. You can get more house for your money in the suburbs. Maybe others (suburbanites) feel that missing this gene is a bad thing, but personally I think that it's a question of enjoying quality versus quantity.

Living in Garden Oaks I spend more time with my son because I am not on the road for 2 hours or more a day commuting to work. Living in Garden Oaks I enjoy all the cultural activities that Houston has to offer without having to go very far. But most of all, living in Garden Oaks I experience the diversity of a well-established community and benefit from all that it has to offer. This diversity is reflected in the different styles of the houses and in the different age groups and personalities around us.

For the most part, the people who live in Garden Oaks are innovative and progressive. This is evident through the success of the Recycling Program. Of course, as is everywhere, there are institutions that are entrenched into people's way of thinking that are hard to break. Sometimes it's hard to change the way things are because "that is the way it has always been done" until the momentum and excitement of the way things could be gets going. What I have found though is that on an individual basis, people are more willing to change things or try something new. As long as YOU are willing to try something new, as long as YOU are not afraid of failing, then I think that this neighborhood can continue to grow and prosper and continue to attract people who are "missing a gene."

Anita

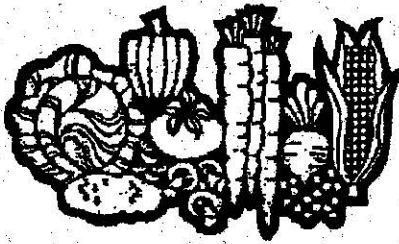
Anita Scherer

Man's Best Friends

I worked on the *Gazette* this morning to the buzz of chainsaws, as a neighbor was having her trees trimmed. When the noise finally ceased, I looked out the window to see the results. When I did, my eye fell on a small gray creature wobbling around in the grass. My first thought was that it was a dove, until I saw my neighbor standing near it. I ran across the street to see what it was. It was a baby squirrel that had fallen from a nest high in the tree. My neighbor, Emily, was protecting it while waiting for its mother to come get it. The mother was nowhere to be seen, however, and the baby needed attention. Emily was on her way out of town, so I took over. She told me about a place I could call for help; the **Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition**. Their number is 941-8792 (TWRC). After wrapping the baby in a towel and placing her in a cage, I rushed to call the TWRC. Flies had been swarming around the little baby as she lay on the ground, and fly eggs turn into maggots in only 12 hours. Once this happens the animal's chance for survival rapidly decreases, so I knew I had to act quickly.

The TWRC is an all volunteer organization that works to save the lives of injured wild animals. When I called the number, a recording gave me the name and number of a contact person; Vivian. Vivian gave me the names of three "squirrel ladies" and told me how to care for the baby until I reached one of the them. These women take in injured squirrels and rehabilitate them. I reached a woman named Ann and she told me to bring the baby to her. When I got there, Ann was holding another baby squirrel, slightly older than mine. She had come home from work to feed him. She took my squirrel in her hands and soothed her. Then she put her in a cage by the window. She said she would release the squirrels when they were five months old. Ann told me that there are volunteers who specialize in raccoons, possums, birds, and even snakes. So next time you see a wild animal that needs help, please call 941-8972. These wonderful, loving people will do whatever they can to save the lives of our fellow earthlings.

Jaime Connor Pierce



Notes From the Garden

Jan is on vacation this month, so we are running a popular column from December of 1990-Editor.

Composting is too much trouble, too expensive, and too messy- and who wants a pile of rotting waste in their back yard, anyway? Too many people think about composting this way, and they miss out on a cheap and convenient source of superior fertilizer as a result. Composting is nothing more than helping Mother Nature do what she's going to do anyway-that is, to turn material that was once living (but has since died) into dirt. This isn't just any dirt either. It's the kind of dirt that makes plants very happy.

A lot has been written about the "right" way to compost. Gardening supply houses help us out as well by offering a variety of products for storing, turning, aerating, starting, feeding, and accelerating your compost pile-all for a price, of course. The truth is that making compost is incredibly simple, requiring nothing more than a sufficient volume of yard or kitchen waste, a place to put it, and time for it to decompose. Anything else you choose to do simply improves the process.

As easy as it is, there are still a few guidelines worth following. First of all, it's better to use a variety of raw material for your compost. Combining green grass clippings with fallen brown leaves gives the compost a more balanced mix of nutrients. You can (and should) add just about any kind of kitchen waste to your compost, with the exception of meat products (which attract vermin). Egg shells, coffee grounds, vegetable peelings, etc. are all fine. Some folks advise against putting dairy products in compost, but I've thrown in sour milk, moldy cheese, and leftover yogurt and cottage cheese without any apparent problems.

Compost decomposes more quickly when it is moist (not soggy), and when it is exposed to oxygen. The purpose of turning a compost pile is to allow the air to circulate. Turning is not necessary, but will make the compost pile work

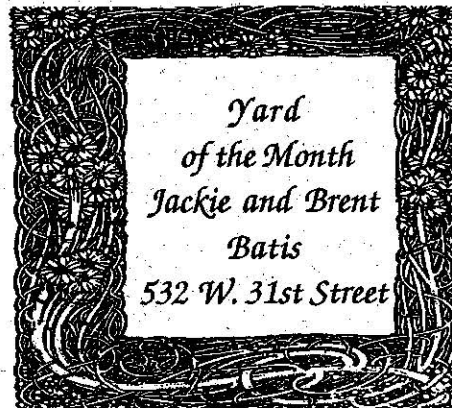
faster. Large woody pieces decompose very slowly. A good rule of thumb is to avoid adding any dead branches bigger around than a pencil. Pine needles will decompose, but they tend to take their own sweet time about it.

A compost pile needs to be a certain minimum size to work properly. A free-standing pile less than three feet across and three feet high is relatively inefficient. Enclosed piles can be somewhat smaller, since they do a better job of retaining the heat produced in the process of decomposition. You can make compost in a large garbage can, a 55-gallon drum, a cinder-block enclosure, a big wooden box, or a "store-bought" compost bin. My compost pile is a 4'x4'x4' chicken wire enclosure in a back corner of my yard, with one detachable side to give me access to the pile.

To start your compost pile, simply add a mix of materials and make sure the ingredients are moist. Give the pile a place to drain so that water doesn't accumulate in the bottom. The volume of material decreases rapidly as settling and decomposition occur. You'll be surprised how much new material you can add without running out of space. Turn the pile every so often if you feel like it, or let it take care of itself if you prefer.

Three to six months later, (depending on weather, moisture, and the raw materials you used) you'll find that the material at the bottom of the pile has become a dark brown, odorless substance with the texture of cake crumbs. Take that stuff and mix it into your garden beds-your plants will love you for it. After all, you've given them the best fertilizer that money can't buy, homemade compost-the gardener's "black gold".

Jan Koenig



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CHURCH DISCIPLESHIP - 5:00 P.M.

EVENING PRAYER - 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE - 6:00 P.M.

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C.O.P. Crimewatch

July 1991

Area	Crime	Block	Street	Date	Time
2	Auto Theft	700	W. 38th	7/07	2330
2	Auto Theft	700	Garden Oaks	7/08	1630
1	Burglary	200	W. 32nd	7/04	1600
2	Burglary	700	W. 43rd	7/08	1900
1	Burglary	700	W. 31st	7/10	1240
2	Burglary	700	W. 43rd	7/19	1045
1	Burglary	700	W. 30th	7/27	0425
2	Burglary	800	Azalea	7/17	0730

Patrol Hours:

Area 1 20 Area 2 21.50 Area 3 69.50

TOTAL CRIMES: 8 TOTAL HOURS PATROLLED: 111

G.O.C.O.P. Report

Our *Leader Festival Booth* was a success, thanks to **Tom Mehrkam, John Ross, Wayne & Nell Armstrong, Linda Same, and Nancy Rust!** They put their all into organizing, setting up, and selling canned Coke products and Blue Bell ice cream sandwiches, donated by **AppleTree** on 43rd! Our profit was not too grand, but the effort was. We are storing the leftovers for our Heights Festival Booth (#1589) for the Heights Festival on the Boulevard on **Sunday, October 6.** Please plan to come and join us. Linda and Nancy have some good ideas and will need your help to decorate the booth.

We had a great July and August in terms of patrolling hours. Over 100 total hours in July was topped in August with over 101 hours in Area 2 alone!! Area 1 came in with 35 hours and Area 3 with 77. Keep up the high visibility for the sake of our neighbors and neighborhood. Thank you to all the patrollers and base station operators helping with the program, who make it such a big success!

Remember to call in your hours patrolled by foot to your area leader. The car patrollers will be logged in the logbook and we can get their information from there, but walkers, bikers, and joggers must call in their hours to their area leader at the end of each month. This way they receive credit toward the incentive program and we are able to turn in the hours to H.P.D. Anyone needing radios, signs, or base station equipment, please contact your area leader so we can arrange to get the equipment to you.

I am still working on plans for the first Award Program in December. We are considering Saturday, December 7th, or Sunday, December 8th for the program. Please call me if you would like to help plan the event. Keep up the good work. Thank you all!

Trish Webb

A Thought from the Oak Forest Lions Club

One might ask himself, "What am I on this earth for? Is my purpose in life to work, raise a family, retire, then die?" I certainly hope not. Millions of people do just that, and never once question their innermost thoughts of giving something back to the community. The Oak Forest Lions Club would welcome any invitation to speak at your club, church, or organization; to explain what the Lions Club is and what it does to serve the community. Please call **Billy Chiasson** at **681-2125** for more information on the Lions Club or to request a speaker. We are looking forward to hearing from you so that we may share with you our motto and commitment that "we serve".

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

Interior Lifestyle Decorating

Great Beauty Begins At The Top

by Jane Warner

Great top treatments are the crowning glory of any window treatment! Sheers, overdraperies or side panels are usually pretty commonplace. Top treatments, however, are unique and make a definite statement that shows your special style and personality.

Top treatments can save energy, transform the height and width of your window, coordinate with other fabrics in the room, but best of all, they cover up ugly, naked transverse rods. The most attractive transverse drapery can be spoiled by opening it and exposing plain white rods.

The simplest and most well-known top treatment is probably the pinch pleated valance. Made like its drapery counterpart, it helps to finish off the treatment and carry the fabric and color across the window area. The valance can be dressed up by scalloping the hemline, using a pleated style or contrasting fabric to set it off from the main draperies.

Shirred-on valances offer a softer, more country styling. Again they can be shaped at the bottom or installed on multiple rods to transform the shape and feel of the treatment. Ruffles or a large "header" can be added for a fuller look. Pouf and balloon valances are two of the newer looks that can be made by adjusting the size and amounts of yardage used to fabricate the valance.

Cornice boards are an old favorite that are being revived with updated designs. Jumbo welting at the top and bottom, straight or scalloped bottoms, contrasting banding and shirred-on toppings are just a few of the newer
See "Decorating" Page 8



Beautification Report

It's time for another Clean-Up Day!

That's right, **Saturday, October 5** is your opportunity to meet your neighbors and get a little fresh air while you spruce up the neighborhood. We'll meet at the pocket park at the corner of **West 43rd St. and Sue Barnett at 9:00 a.m.** and work for two or three hours.

The "target" clean-up areas are the 43rd Street park, Garden Oaks Boulevard, the esplanade inside of the traffic circle on 34th Street (just east of Shepherd), and any other less-than-beautiful places we can get too.

We need you! We particularly need anyone who can bring a gas powered string trimmer, a gas powered edger, and/or a mower. Please come by and help us out for a couple of hours - even if you can't bring a power tool. We'll make sure that your time and energy don't go to waste.

Call **Jan Koenig**, Chairman at **896-8997** for more information.



Heard Under the Oak Tree

Natalie Wood of Section 4 graduated from dental school in May. She has recently opened her office and is ready to serve the mouths of Garden Oaks. Congratulations!

The **Garden Oaks Plaza Civic Club** had Rep. Ken Yarbrough speak at their September 5 meeting. He discussed the improvements and beautification of N. Shepherd. Congratulations on your great turnout!

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Please fill in the form on the back and mail to

Garden Oaks Civic Club

Jennifer Day

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Annual Heights Festival Sunday, October 6

That's right, folks, it is already time for the annual Heights Festival. Where did the summer go? For the last three years the Garden Oaks Civic Club has sponsored a soft drink/ice cream booth at the festival to raise money and gain recognition. This year, the Citizens On Patrol Committee of the Civic Club is sponsoring the booth themselves. They will be selling canned soft drinks and packaged ice cream. As we did last year, the booth will also supply drinking water for those thirsty canines that accompany their humans to the festival.

This year the booth will be located closer to the front of the festival, in the 1500 block. The festival starts at the 1400 block and goes to the 1900 block of Heights Boulevard. The festivities

begin around noon and continue until about 6:00 p.m. The festival is always great fun and includes live bands, arts and crafts, lots of food, and the highlight of the day, a parade. Admission is free, but bring money for those irresistible goodies, especially from the Garden Oaks Citizens On Patrol Booth.

If you want any more information, or if you would like to volunteer to man the booth or help in any way, please call **Trish Webb**, C.O.P. Coordinator, at **683-8461**.

Come on out and enjoy the festival. Wear a Garden Oaks t-shirt to advertise our neighborhood, and visit the C.O.P. Booth. Show your support for the committee that makes Garden Oaks the safe place it is!

Recycling Report

July 1991 Totals



		Pounds	Amount
METALS:	Aluminum cans	480	\$ 144.00
	Mixed aluminum	9	\$ 2.25
	Aluminum Breakage	62	\$ 3.10
	Iron	190	\$ 1.90
TOTALS:		741	\$ 151.25

The figures for paper, glass, and plastic were not available at press time.

Last month we told you that you can take your tin cans to Oaks Presbyterian Church, which donates the proceeds to the food pantry. Their recycling center is always open and the bins are labelled and directions are posted. In addition to tin, they take glass, and plastic water and milk containers. However, **they do not take paper**. So all you people who call with questions about where to take tin, or where to take recyclables when you miss our recycling pickup day, now you have your answer. Oaks Presbyterian is very conveniently located at 43rd Street and Chantilly, behind St. Michael's. Thank you for your recycling efforts. **You really can make a difference!**

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Children/Birthdates: _____

Years lived in Garden Oaks: _____

Phone: _____

Annual Membership Fees \$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**



Elementary School News

Garden Oaks Elementary welcomes our new principal, teachers, and employees:

- Jeannie Daniels**, Principal
- Juliana Bruce**, Pre-K
- Francie Crain**, Resource
- Myrtlelyn Gordon**, E.S.L.
- Catherine Larriviere**, 2nd Grade
- Kasandra Mason**, P.E.
- Lida Palacios**, Teacher's Aide

And "welcome back" to all our returning staff and students. We hope everyone had a great summer!

Congratulations to **Jeannie Daniels**, employee of the month for September. We at Garden Oaks Elementary encourage everyone in the community to become involved in the P.T.A. It is not just for parents; it is for relatives, friends, and neighbors, too. Membership is only \$2.25 per person. This month, the **P.T.A. meeting** will be **October 8**, and the next meeting will be on **December 11**. Meetings begin at **7:00 p.m.** and are held in the old cafeteria.

The P.T.A. is having a **shoe drive** for our students who are in need of school shoes. A box has been placed in the cafeteria, so please donate any outgrown children's shoes you may have. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

We will have our annual **Harvest Festival** on **Saturday, November 16th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.** The festival will include games, food, an auction, a prize drawing, and lots of fun! So mark this date on your calendars now. Anyone wishing to donate prizes for the drawing, or to help with the festival, please contact **Susan Light** at **862-5446** or **Kim Newberry** at **591-2616**.

Support the young minds of Garden Oaks by supporting their school. Call **Peggy Kramer**, P.T.A. president, at **869-0440** for more information on how you can make Garden Oaks Elementary a school we can all be proud of.



M.O.M.S. Offers Support To Full-Time Moms

The Northwest Houston M.O.M.S. Group is expanding and accepting new members.

M.O.M.S. (Mothers Offering Mothers Support) is a non-profit group consisting of women who have chosen to stay at home full-or part-time to raise their young children. Currently there are eight chapters in the Houston area.

The members of M.O.M.S. are a diverse group of individuals who learn from their shared experiences. Some women had children after long careers, others started raising children soon after marriage. Some have several children, others are first-time mothers. The children range in age from newborn to about ten years.

The group addresses issues of concern and offers support to members. While some meetings feature guest speakers, other meetings are devoted to discussions and resource sharing. At the September meeting, Gail Goodwin, Editor of *Our Kids* magazine, led a lively discussion about birthday parties. She had many "do's" and "don'ts" to offer, punctuated by hilarious examples of her own successes and failures. In October, Carol Vaughn will speak on water safety and drowning prevention on behalf of the Red Cross. Future meetings will range from CPR and first aid to decorating tips to self defense. The group also plans family outings, mothers' night out, and couples parties.

Membership of M.O.M.S. includes women from Garden Oaks, Oak Forest, and surrounding areas. Come meet your neighborhood moms and be part of this exciting, informative group. The meetings are held at **St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, 2003 W. 43rd**, on the first Thursday of each month at **9:30 a.m.** Babysitting is available beginning at **9:15 a.m.** For more information, call the group president, **Jodi Goike**, at **683-8782**.

Thanks, Neighbor!

Thank you to **Anita Scherer** for helping with the September *Gazette*. Wouldn't you like to be editor for 1991?

Thank you to postman **Rudy Guzman** who delivers the mail even when it is addressed incorrectly, and always has a friendly smile.

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October Birthdays

- 2 **Scott Pierce**, 32 yrs.
- 2 **Jim Hall**, ?
- 3 **Joseph Weinberger**, 5 yrs.
- 11 **Audrey Boushell**, 2 yrs.
- 11 **Connor Boushell**, 2 yrs.
- 12 **Megan Burns**, 8 yrs.
- 13 **Frances Shecter**, ?
- 14 **David Epstein**, ?
- 18 **Christopher Roberts**, 3 yrs.
- 24 **Mary Steck**, ?
- 28 **Gertrude Dietrich**, ?

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

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



Gazette Ad Rates

\$35 per month - \$175 for 6
\$325 for 1 year
Deadline for November *Gazette* is October 10th

The personal ad rate is \$.05 per character. Deadline is the 10th of the preceding month. Call 688-3237.

"Decorating" continued

looks. Add "legs" to the cornice boards (one on each side) and you'll have lambrequins (shadow boxes). The lambrequins are receiving the same high fashion dressing up as cornice boards.

No matter which style you choose, a distinctive top treatment will surely be a beautiful focal point in any room.

Do You Walk or Jog Routinely?

If so, do it for C.O.P.! C.O.P. is our Citizen's On Patrol group, and we are in need of patrollers. We are not asking for much, only your participation! Your regular routine counts as hours patrolled toward our monthly requirements with H.P.D. Please call **Trish Webb** at **683-8461** to sign up for C.O.P.

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

October Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Civic Club Meeting 7:15 pm	2 Runners Club 7:00 pm	3	4	5 Clean-Up Day 9:00 am
6 Heights Festival 12:00 Noon	7	8 Garden Oaks P.T.A. 7:00 pm	9 Runners Club 7:00 pm	10 Garden Club 7:00 pm Gazette Deadline 8:00 pm	11	12 Recycle Pick-up 8:00 am
13	14 Columbus Day	15 Heavy Trash Pick-up	16 Runners Club 7:00 pm	17 P.I.P. Meeting 7:30 pm	18	19
20	21 First Day Of Fall	22	23 Runners Club 7:00 pm	24	25	26
27 Turn Clocks Back	28	29	30 Runners Club 7:00 pm	31 Halloween		

Board of Trustees Representatives

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James J. Doyle 694-4134

Architectural Review Chairman

Herb Kellner 692-2776

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David Easterling 862-1661

George Paul 861-0328

Section 2

Susan McMillian 695-8245

Dian Austin 691-6505

Anne Balson

James Doyle 694-4134

Section 3

David Veselka 692-1384

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Bob Hudson 694-1330

James Mabry 695-2157

Section 4

Jaime Pierce 688-3237

Stan Bohon 680-1562

Tim Pagel 686-4424

Section 5

Vee Gaines 686-5042

Anita Scherer 956-7809

Garden Oaks Citizens on Patrol Numbers to Know

G.O. C.O.P. Coordinator

Trish Webb 683-8461

Area 1 Leader

Heather Barr and Patrick King 869-1527

Area 2 Leader

Joan Fudge 692-8822

Area 3 Leader

Tom Mehrkam 688-4008