

**Who You Need To Know
Garden Oaks Civic Club**

P.O. Box 92155,
Houston, 77206
Paul Bick, President
223 W. 33rd • 869-5559
Suzanne Debien, V. P., Membership
303 W. 34th • 861-5040
Jan Koenig, Treasurer/Com. Garden
407 W. 34th • 869-8997
Donald Howie, Secretary • 680-3420
Janis Spears, Vice-President, Editor
813 W. 32nd • 861-6221

Beautification
Carla Hoyer 699-8171
Citizens-on-Patrol
Bill & Jinny Chastain 681-5151
Johnny Murphy 688-7337
Garden Club
Julie Engleman 861-6204
Peggy Ingels 861-7073
Gazette Hand Delivery
John McKenney 692-2447
Plant Co-op
Anne Kilgore 697-0069
Programs
VACANT-Your name could be here
Recycling
Wynn Gajkowski 869-3938
Section 1 Constable Program
Denise Epstein 869-0128
Education Liason
Jane Ann Roberts 861-8512

Board of Trustees
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Brent Batis 861-3209
Rod Walker 868-2469
Section 2
Susan McMillian 695-8245
Dian Austin 691-6505
Tim Pagel 692-7431
President,
James Doyle 694-4134
Section 3
David Veselka 692-1384
Bill Hudson 694-1330
James Mabry 695-2157
Architectural Review Chairman,
Herb Kellner 692-2776
Section 4
Stan Bohon 680-9631
Richard Broad 957-3076
Jaime Pierce 688-3237
Section 5
Vee Gaines 686-5042
Ria McElvaney 682-6707
Anita Scherer 956-7809

April Calendar						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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4	5 SDMC G.O. Elementary 3:15	6 Civic Club 7:00 pm	7	8	9 Good Friday	10 Recycle Pick-up 8:00 am Gazette Deadline 7:00 pm
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Kid's Page - The Best thing about Garden Oaks Elementary School

The best thing is teachers
James Mabry IV

The best thing is our cafeteria and the stage.
(These are the tables and steps to the stage.)
Jennifer O'Dowd

The best thing is going to writing center
Natalie Abrams

The best thing is Mrs. Daniels.
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Section 1 Crime's down!

Speeding drivers think twice. Graham Park is a safer place to play. Thanks to the Constable Program, Section 1 residents are enjoying a better neighborhood. We need your help again to ensure an even safer year. It's time to count interested households to determine if we'll have enough participants to renew our contract with Precinct 1.

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Updates on the program's progress this year as well as invoices will soon be mailed to Section 1 residents. The annual fee is still \$180.00 per household, and checks should be made out to the Garden Oaks Civic Club. Please consider participating so that Constable Matthias can continue to keep those school bus drivers within the speed limit and suspicious groups away from our neighborhood park. The constable program also provides watch over your home while you're on vacation, and you can reduce your home insurance rates by inspecting your home.

Section 1 residents watch your mail for more on the constable program. We need your help. For more information call Kathy Huber at 868-0935.

Son of Constable Program

Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 are seeking support for the start-up of a constable program. The success of the program in Area 1 has been outstanding. While it's true that we already pay our law enforcement officers to protect us, and HPD does a tremendous job against the odds, they just can't be everywhere, everyone must be aware that crimes can be, and are committed anytime, anywhere, and against anyone. This sad reality is being reflected in the monthly crime stats for Garden Oaks.

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There is a growing interest to start more Montessori programs within the school district. H.I.S.D. currently has two magnet schools that offer Montessori for pre-K through sixth grade. These schools are so popular that at one time people camped out overnight to register their children for the available spaces. Today they have adopted a lottery system to regulate admission.

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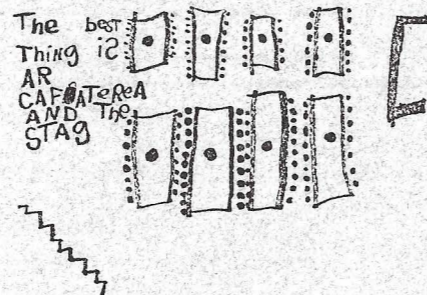
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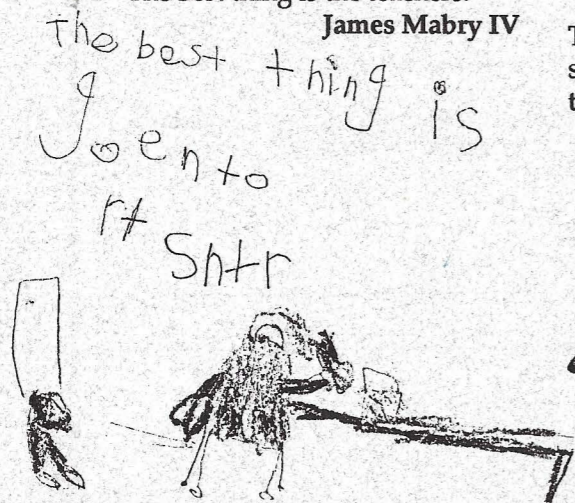
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Pastors: Don Goodwin, Don Raschke



Additions
2nd Stories
Renovations

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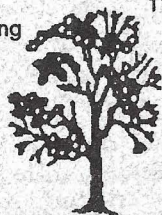
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- 729 W. 39th St.
- 705 W. 39th St.
- 818 W. 41st St.
- 855 Azalea

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BUILDER**
492-9400

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Stump Grinding
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your Garden Oaks neighbor
and area specialist

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528-1800

680-8550



President's Message

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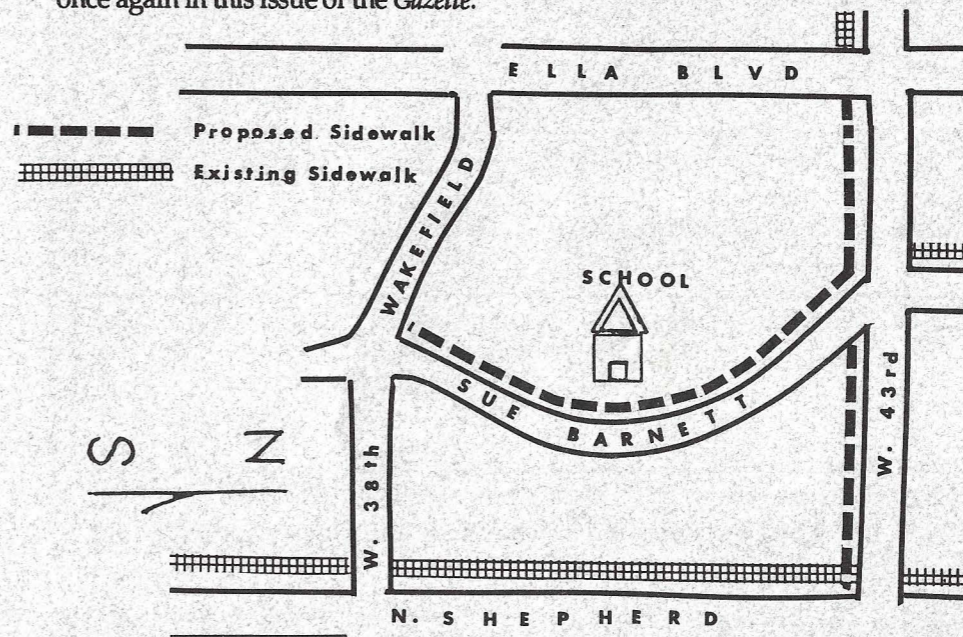
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This is a good opportunity to support a children's program which serves this community. If you have any items or goods you would like to donate or need more information please call 697-0671.

Sidewalk Committee Report

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At the April Civic Club meeting, the Committee will report the response it has received from area residents, then at the May meeting a decision will be made regarding the recommendation to be made by the Civic Club to the City. The map set out below shows the location of the proposed sidewalk. A ballot is being provided once again in this issue of the Gazette.



Opinion Ballot To The Sidewalk Committee

My Opinion Is: Yes, I think we should have the proposed sidewalks
 No, I do not think we should have the proposed sidewalks

Name: _____

Address: _____

We are _____, are not _____ the property owners

This ballot will be kept confidential. However, if you do not wish to give your name and/or address, please let us know whether or not the sidewalk will be added to your property.

Yes No

Comments: _____

Please Return to:
Rosana Hagman
718 W. 38th
Houston, Texas 77018

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- Flowerbed Mulching
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DAVID BARTULA
688-4244
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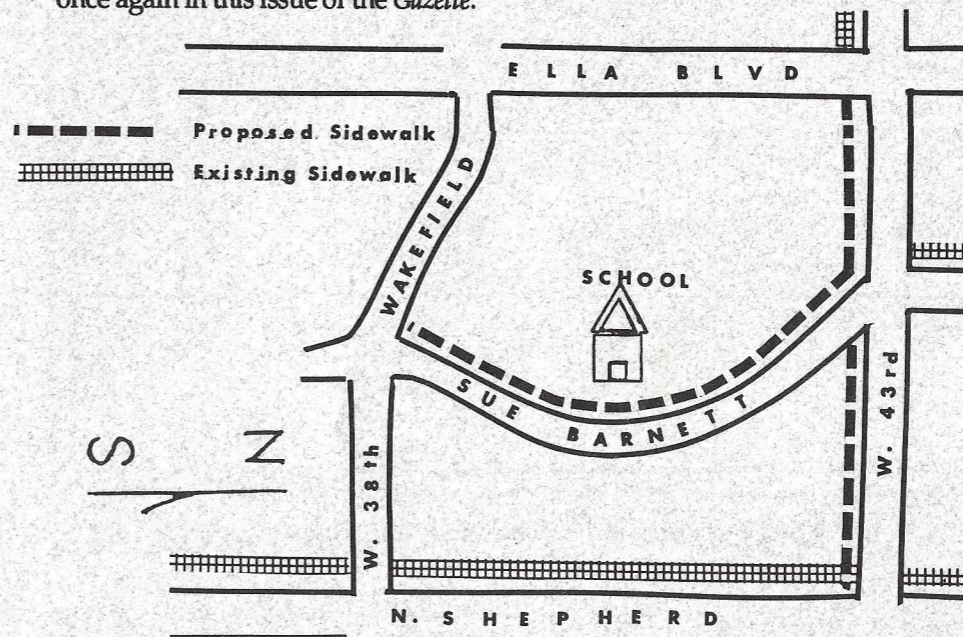
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Opinion Ballot To The Sidewalk Committee

My Opinion Is: Yes, I think we should have the proposed sidewalks
 No, I do not think we should have the proposed sidewalks

Name: _____

Address: _____

We are _____, are not _____ the property owners

This ballot will be kept confidential. However, if you do not wish to give your name and/or address, please let us know whether or not the sidewalk will be added to your property.

Yes No

Comments: _____

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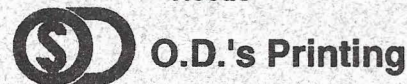
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Jeffrey W. Rees, Pastor

Neighborhood Views Cont.

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Realtor®/Associate

1505 Heights Blvd.

Office: 869-0456
Pager: 768-4361
Residence: 869-9963

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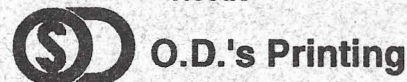
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WEDDING BELLS rang for Tina Charvet and Jeff McClellan on March 6th! They enjoyed a honeymoon trip to Lake Tahoe and are back home in Section 3.

Tom Merhkam (Section 5) celebrated his 40th birthday with an afternoon bash on Sunday, March 21.

Brett Sherwood, age 4, recovered so nicely from a mild concussion that he sustained from a fall that he was able to visit his grandparents in Oregon with his brother Michael while parents Denise and Brian enjoyed a ski vacation.

Tim Pagel, Section 2, and Greg Tharp, Section 1, returned from their ski trip at Winter Park sunburned, relaxed and in one piece. It was Greg's first time to ski.

Welcome new Section 2 neighbors Amy, Gary, and Alexandra Wegs!

**Girl Scouts Compete
in S.T.R.I.D.E.R.S.**

Recently several Girl Scout Troops in Garden Oaks competed in a council-wide program "Scouts Teams Running in Different Events and Races."

G. O. Girl Scouts who placed in the Neighborhood Meet and qualified to go to the District Meet include: Carrie Alexander, Allison Bell, Lindsey Copp, Sharon Jaffe, Becky Jeans, Ricelle Luck, Amy Marek, Krystin Moon, Laura Rhea, Amy Ross, Katie Russell, Meredith Voorhees, and Haley Voorhees.

The Council is scheduled for May 15th. Wish our girls luck!

Good News/Bad News

THE GOOD NEWS IS that the unsightly buildings at the corner of W. 30th and Yale have been torn down. The bad news is that some unknown person/corporation/slime ball has dumped several truck loads of construction trash on the now vacant lots.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION regarding who perpetrated this dastardly deed, please call Paul Bick at 869-5559.

Garden Oaks PTA

The Garden Oaks P.T.A. recently presented three Life Memberships to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the School. Garden Oaks resident and SIGHTS Kindergarten Teacher Mrs. Jo Ann Woods AND her husband Ed Woods were two of the honorees. The Woods have been GO residents for 23 years and Mrs. Wood's Father is a long time G.O. resident also. Their son, Jonathan, attended Garden Oaks Elementary. Ed served as PTA treasurer while Jonathan attended elementary school. Mrs. Woods has served on the PTA Board for three years both as a parent and as a faculty member. Angie Sanchez, the third honoree is also a G. O. resident. Her family has lived in the neighborhood for 10 years. Her son goes to Garden Oaks Elementary and her daughter goes to Clifton Middle School. Angie has held various positions on the PTA Board since her daughter was in kindergarten and is especially interested in the Kindergarten Screening and Tutoring programs. Angie advises parents "The system (public schools) does work . . . people make it work."

G. O. Elementary PTA now offers a unique new service to the community. MARKET DAY is a food cooperative which offers restaurant quality foods at competitive prices. The faculty and student body have enjoyed this great food for two months and are now making it available to the entire neighborhood. G. O. residents Peggy Kramer (869-0440) and Sara Burns (862-8559) are coordinating this fund-raising project. Call them for more information or see them at the next Civic Club Meeting.

G.O. Bikers

The word is out that David and Denise Epstein will be participating for the first time in the MS 150 BIKE TOUR.

The MS 150 is a 2 day, one hundred fifty mile bike ride to Austin. It is the biggest fund-raising event the Multiple Sclerosis Society holds.

MS is a chronic disease of the central nervous system with symptoms from slight blurring of vision to complete paralysis. Each rider must raise \$150.00 in pledges, contributions or sponsors.

If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution please call David or Denise Epstein at 869-0128. It's for a good cause.

Rollin', Rollin', Rollin'

All right all of you wild and crazy roller skatin', inline skatin', roller bladn', dare devilin', skatin' on the wild side people out there, here's your chance to shine! There is a grass roots movement to organize the SKATERS of Garden Oaks. Here's your chance to participate in organized group skating in Garden Oaks and maybe if you practice real hard . . . you can skate in the (gulp) Heights Festival. I can see this thing really taking off . . . synchronized inline skating ala the brief case brigade. Interested? Call Paul Bick at 869-5559. *Gosh Paul, I'd hate to be your answering machine after this Gazette.*

GO COP

GO COP would like to acknowledge the participation at the March Civic Club meeting of Lt. Joe Scott and Deputy Dick Matthias from the Precinct 1 constable's office. Both have long careers in law enforcement and were able to pass along lots of good information. They were very complimentary of our community and the efforts we are making to cooperate with HPD. It's heartening to know that we have a good reputation with the local police and to know that they stand ready to help when we call. Two visitors from the Imperial Valley COP, Carl Townsend and Jim Helton, gave us some good pointers on keeping our COP program alive and well. Our thanks to these four gentlemen for their investment of time and effort in our neighborhood. We were encouraged by the number of new volunteers who have signed up following the March meeting . . . BUT THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE!!

We have purchased two of the new edition, "Citizens on Patrol" signs that will soon appear in our neighborhood to warn the criminal element that they are being watched. We will add to that number as they become available. The goal is to install one of these large blue and white signs with the watchful eye at our busiest entrances, and especially at the "cut through" streets.

GO COP is offering an orange mesh vest with two vertical reflective stripes front and back for \$8. If you like the idea of having visual protection while walking, running or biking, make your desires known on the questionnaire soon to be circulated by your block captain.

January Crime Stats

4 Burglaries 1 Stolen Auto

Neighborhood Views

Walk This Way

Today I encountered my first Garden Oaks Anti-Sidewalk activist! As he stood at my doorway and explained how dug up my whole yard was going to be and asked if that was what I wanted, I simply said "yes" and he went on his way. He seemed so confident in his reason not to have sidewalks that I didn't have the heart to tell him that I was sure they planned to put the dirt back and that the grass would surely grow back over it. The fact is, I haven't heard any good reason why we shouldn't have these sidewalks. And living on the corner of W 43rd and Sue Barnett, I will no doubt be the most affected by this decision and figured it was about time for my two-cents. Let's see, what are the arguments?

- 1) *Digging up my yard.* As I mentioned before, they're not going to leave the dirt in the street for us to fix!
- 2) *Drainage.* It appears to me that they've come up with a good design to solve the drainage problem for the Sue Barnett sidewalk (not like if it rains hard enough now my whole corner isn't flooded anyway!)
- 3) *The country look.* Besides the fact that it's nearing the year 2000 and like it or not we do live in an urban area of approximately 1 million people, I don't see any point in standing in the way of progress. For those who yearn for the country look, do as I did, buy some property in the country! . . .

I'm sure whoever is opposed to these sidewalks believes that they have a good reason, and I can't say they're wrong, but I would suggest to anyone opposed to them to go to Garden Oaks Elementary School around the time school lets out and see these kids forced to walk in the street or across yards with cars going every which way just to be home. . . . This isn't the country and these aren't horse-drawn carriages using these roads, they are 3000 pound automobiles zipping by us every day!

In this society where we recycle waste, reduce pollution, and ration water for the good of our children and future generations, I think the least I could do is to deal with my yard being dug up for a few weeks if it meant making this neighborhood a little safer for the citizens, young and old, who live in it.

William Evans, Section 2

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Section News

Tim Spears (Section 1) celebrated his 34th birthday with a rousing celebration the highlight of which was a truly gourmet meal prepared for Tim and friends by Carla Hoyer of Section 3. Yes, everyone wanted to live so they begged Janis (Tim's lovely wife) not to cook. Word has it that she dusts her stove once a week whether it needs it or not).

WEDDING BELLS rang for Tina Charvet and Jeff McClellan on March 6th! They enjoyed a honeymoon trip to Lake Tahoe and are back home in Section 3.

Tom Merhkam (Section 5) celebrated his 40th birthday with an afternoon bash on Sunday, March 21.

Brett Sherwood, age 4, recovered so nicely from a mild concussion that he sustained from a fall that he was able to visit his grandparents in Oregon with his brother Michael while parents Denise and Brian enjoyed a ski vacation.

Tim Pagel, Section 2, and Greg Tharp, Section 1, returned from their ski trip at Winter Park sunburned, relaxed and in one piece. It was Greg's first time to ski.

Welcome new Section 2 neighbors Amy, Gary, and Alexandra Wegs!

**Girl Scouts Compete
in S.T.R.I.D.E.R.S.**

Recently several Girl Scout Troops in Garden Oaks competed in a council-wide program "Scouts Teams Running in Different Events and Races."

G. O. Girl Scouts who placed in the Neighborhood Meet and qualified to go to the District Meet include: Carrie Alexander, Allison Bell, Lindsey Copp, Sharon Jaffe, Becky Jeans, Ricelle Luck, Amy Marek, Krystin Moon, Laura Rhea, Amy Ross, Katie Russell, Meredith Voorhees, and Haley Voorhees.

The Council is scheduled for May 15th. Wish our girls luck!

Good News/Bad News

THE GOOD NEWS IS that the unsightly buildings at the corner of W. 30th and Yale have been torn down. The bad news is that some unknown person/corporation/slime ball has dumped several truck loads of construction trash on the now vacant lots.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION regarding who perpetrated this dastardly deed, please call Paul Bick at 869-5559.

Garden Oaks PTA

The Garden Oaks P.T.A. recently presented three Life Memberships to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the School. Garden Oaks resident and SIGHTS Kindergarten Teacher Mrs. Jo Ann Woods AND her husband Ed Woods were two of the honorees. The Woods have been GO residents for 23 years and Mrs. Wood's Father is a long time G.O. resident also. Their son, Jonathan, attended Garden Oaks Elementary. Ed served as PTA treasurer while Jonathan attended elementary school. Mrs. Woods has served on the PTA Board for three years both as a parent and as a faculty member. Angie Sanchez, the third honoree is also a G. O. resident. Her family has lived in the neighborhood for 10 years. Her son goes to Garden Oaks Elementary and her daughter goes to Clifton Middle School. Angie has held various positions on the PTA Board since her daughter was in kindergarten and is especially interested in the Kindergarten Screening and Tutoring programs. Angie advises parents "The system (public schools) does work... people make it work."

G. O. Elementary PTA now offers a unique new service to the community. MARKET DAY is a food cooperative which offers restaurant quality foods at competitive prices. The faculty and student body have enjoyed this great food for two months and are now making it available to the entire neighborhood. G. O. residents Peggy Kramer (869-0440) and Sara Burns (862-8559) are coordinating this fund-raising project. Call them for more information or see them at the next Civic Club Meeting.

G.O. Bikers

The word is out that David and Denise Epstein will be participating for the first time in the MS 150 BIKE TOUR.

The MS 150 is a 2 day, one hundred fifty mile bike ride to Austin. It is the biggest fund-raising event the Multiple Sclerosis Society holds.

MS is a chronic disease of the central nervous system with symptoms from slight blurring of vision to complete paralysis. Each rider must raise \$150.00 in pledges, contributions or sponsors.

If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution please call David or Denise Epstein at 869-0128. It's for a good cause.

Rollin', Rollin', Rollin'

All right all of you wild and crazy roller skatin', inline skatin', roller bladn', dare devilin', skatin' on the wild side people out there, here's your chance to shine! There is a grass roots movement to organize the SKATERS of Garden Oaks. Here's your chance to participate in organized group skating in Garden Oaks and maybe if you practice real hard... you can skate in the (gulp) Heights Festival. I can see this thing really taking off... synchronized inline skating ala the brief case brigade. Interested? Call Paul Bick at 869-5559. *Gosh Paul, I'd hate to be your answering machine after this Gazette.*

GO COP

GO COP would like to acknowledge the participation at the March Civic Club meeting of Lt. Joe Scott and Deputy Dick Matthias from the Precinct 1 constable's office. Both have long careers in law enforcement and were able to pass along lots of good information. They were very complimentary of our community and the efforts we are making to cooperate with HPD. It's heartening to know that we have a good reputation with the local police and to know that they stand ready to help when we call. Two visitors from the Imperial Valley COP, Carl Townsend and Jim Helton, gave us some good pointers on keeping our COP program alive and well. Our thanks to these four gentlemen for their investment of time and effort in our neighborhood. We were encouraged by the number of new volunteers who have signed up following the March meeting... BUT THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE!!

We have purchased two of the new edition, "Citizens on Patrol" signs that will soon appear in our neighborhood to warn the criminal element that they are being watched. We will add to that number as they become available. The goal is to install one of these large blue and white signs with the watchful eye at our busiest entrances, and especially at the "cut through" streets.

GO COP is offering an orange mesh vest with two vertical reflective stripes front and back for \$8. If you like the idea of having visual protection while walking, running or biking, make your desires known on the questionnaire soon to be circulated by your block captain.

January Crime Stats

4 Burglaries 1 Stolen Auto

Neighborhood Views

Walk This Way

Today I encountered my first Garden Oaks Anti-Sidewalk activist! As he stood at my doorway and explained how dug up my whole yard was going to be and asked if that was what I wanted, I simply said "yes" and he went on his way. He seemed so confident in his reason not to have sidewalks that I didn't have the heart to tell him that I was sure they planned to put the dirt back and that the grass would surely grow back over it. The fact is, I haven't heard any good reason why we shouldn't have these sidewalks. And living on the corner of W 43rd and Sue Barnett, I will no doubt be the most affected by this decision and figured it was about time for my two-cents. Let's see, what are the arguments?

1) *Digging up my yard.* As I mentioned before, they're not going to leave the dirt in the street for us to fix!

2) *Drainage.* It appears to me that they've come up with a good design to solve the drainage problem for the Sue Barnett sidewalk (not like if it rains hard enough now my whole corner isn't flooded anyway!)

3) *The country look.* Besides the fact that it's nearing the year 2000 and like it or not we do live in an urban area of approximately 1 million people, I don't see any point in standing in the way of progress. For those who yearn for the country look, do as I did, buy some property in the country!...

I'm sure whoever is opposed to these sidewalks believes that they have a good reason, and I can't say they're wrong, but I would suggest to anyone opposed to them to go to Garden Oaks Elementary School around the time school lets out and see these kids forced to walk in the street or across yards with cars going every which way just to be home.... This isn't the country and these aren't horse-drawn carriages using these roads, they are 3000 pound automobiles zipping by us every day!

In this society where we recycle waste, reduce pollution, and ration water for the good of our children and future generations, I think the least I could do is to deal with my yard being dug up for a few weeks if it meant making this neighborhood a little safer for the citizens, young and old, who live in it.

William Evans, Section 2

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