

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
????????????????
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 McKerney 692-2447
Plant Co-op
Anne Kilgore 697-0069
Programs
VACANT-Your name could be here
Recycling
Kirk Dice 688-2247
Section 1 Constable Program
Denise Epstein 869-0128
Education Liason
Jane Ann Roberts 861-8512

Board of Trustees

Section 1
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

October Calendar						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Heights Festival	4	5 Civic Club 7:00 pm	6	7	8	9 Recycle Pick-up 8:00 am
10 Gazette Deadline 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14	15	16 City Drop-Off Recycling
17	18	19 HeavyTrash Pick-up	20 Garden Club 6:30	21	22	23
24 31 Happy Halloween	25	26	27	28	29	30

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Children/Birthdates: _____

Years lived in Garden Oaks: _____

Phone: _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES o \$10 Family Membership
 o \$5 Senior Citizens (Garden Oaks Roots)
 o \$25 Business Membership

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB

MAIL TO:
Suzanne Debien, V.P., Membership
303 W. 34th, Houston, TX 77018

GARDEN OAKS Gazette

Volume 16, No. 10

Circulation 1550

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**MAPPING IT OUT — ZONING,
THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY**

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From Council Member Jim Greenwood:

Houston zoning will reflect the work of thousands of Houstonians in hundreds of neighborhood and public meetings. It will provide protection for residential neighborhoods by establishing a set of rules everyone will have to play by in using land.

For the first time, homeowners in neighborhoods without deed restrictions will have protection against bars, auto repair shops, and junk shops opening up next door. Your right to ENJOY your property will be protected against a neighbor using his or her property to make money at your expense. The anti-zoning people, are, naturally, in full howl. They do not like to play by rules. They do not like for homeowners to have power. They are flooding the City with misleading claims in their half-truth literature. These are samples of their propaganda and my responses:

1. Misleading Claim: "Inflated Housing Costs"

Response: Your home may be worth more and retain its value if zoning rules prevent a bar, shade-tree mechanic, or other non-residential use from opening next door. Is that added value inflation? With thousands of acres of vacant land inside the City where single-family homes, duplexes, and apartments may be built, there will be plenty of land for new housing. Zoning costs will add virtually nothing to the cost of a permit to build a house. This anti-zoning claim is inflated.

2. Misleading Claim: "Urban Sprawl"

Response: We already have sprawl. People are moving to planned communities and zoned cities outside of Houston by the tens of thousands. Under zoning the current 5,000-square-foot minimum residential lot size remains the same, so there's no sprawl there. Higher density residential construction is allowed in the R4, R8 and RO districts. Many believe that inner-city revitalization and development inside the beltway can only take place with zoning rules providing stability and predictability of property values.

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Response: Small neighborhood businesses will be grandfathered. Home-based businesses are allowed in R districts unless prohibited by deed restrictions. Mixed-use (UN) districts preserve the areas that blend commercial and residential uses. More stable values and Mayor Lanier's Neighborhoods Standard program may create better quality of life, generate inner-city redevelopment closer to where people work, and reduce work trips, savings energy.

4. Misleading Claim: "Bureaucracy and Graft"

Response: Houston's zoning process is open and above board. Clear simple development rules minimize staff discretion in the granting of permits. The Open zoning classification of most vacant land dramatically reduces the need for zoning changes since most uses, commercial and residential, are allowed as a matter of right in the Open districts. For these reasons Houston will need less zoning staff than most zoned cities. Houston zoning will be governed by Texas state law. I'm not aware of any instances of graft or corruption involving zoning in Austin, San Antonio, Dallas, and Fort Worth, covered by the same law. The budget for zoning, including zoning enforcement, will be less than 1% of the City's General Fund budget.

5. Misleading Claim: "Economic and Racial Segregation"

Response: Houston's zoning process has been inclusively integrated from the beginning. The loudest complaints about bars and motels in residential neighborhoods have come from minority and low-income homeowners. There is

Due to a lack of response, the Garden Oaks Historical Retrospective has been postponed until November. We have had an underwhelming response for information, photos, etc. To those of you who have responded Thank You. To those of you who have not, it is not too late. If you have any thoughts to share on living in Garden Oaks, whether you are a new resident or long time resident, please submit them to the Editor as soon as possible. All information received will be printed in the November Gazette. THANKS

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St. Matthew's

United Methodist Church

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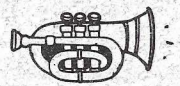
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Preschool - Mon - Fri 9-2
 Mother's Day Out - Wed - Fri 9-2
 ages 3 mos. - 5 yrs.
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Senior Adult Exercise
 Mon, Tues, Thur - 4:15-5:00

4300 N. Shepherd at Crosstimbers
 697-0671

Pastors: Don Goodwin, Don Raschke



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 2nd Stories
 Renovations

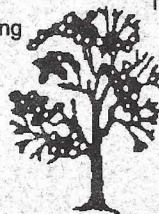
See Our Work At:

- 718 W. 42nd St.
- 729 W. 39th St.
- 705 W. 39th St.
- 818 W. 41st St.
- 855 Azalea

**HARRY JAMES
 BUILDER
 492-9400**

DENNIS R. CLOONEY TREE EXPERTS

Removal Insured
 Trimming 11 Yrs. Service
 Stump Grinding
 Tree Sales



COMPLETE TREE SERVICE
 GARDEN OAKS RESIDENT 30 YRS.
 683-TREE



**Terry
 Jeanes**

your Garden Oaks
 neighbor
 and area specialist

RE/MAX-METRO

528-1800
 680-8550



President's Message

It is time to start looking for next year's officers for Garden Oaks Civic Club. Next month (November) we will elect officers for 1994. If you would like to run for an office, come to the October meeting. Nominations will still be accepted from the floor at the November meeting, but it would be nice to know who is running early enough to list the names in the November Gazette. We are looking for all positions. We MUST have a secretary and president. That is one of those little legal details for not for profit corporations. But all the officer positions will be open, so don't be shy. Please consider being an officer during the next year and help your neighborhood continue to be a great place to live.

The September meeting was well-attended, but there were no really hot topics on the agenda. For October, though, there will be a couple of items which you might want to hear about. First, especially for Section One residents, the owner of the vacant lot on Shepherd would like to hear the reasons why there was such a negative response to the attempt to have the deed restrictions changed last year. There will be a few minutes of the agenda available to discuss this topic at the October meeting. If you want to comment on this, please be as specific as you can. If it appears that there is a lot of interest in this, we can arrange a separate meeting just for Section One residents.

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under the City Ordinance.

I hope you will consider showing up for the meeting on **October 5, 1993**, at the **Garden Oaks Baptist Church**. The meetings start at **7:15 pm**. See you there!

Paul Bick

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Volunteers in Public Schools

Volunteers are the backbone of a good school community. There are many areas in Garden Oaks Elementary School which can use your help and talents. If you want to become part of the exciting partnership of education, please fill out the following form, check areas of interest that you think you can help with, and indicate what times you would be available. Return this form to **Anita Scherer, 4223 Apollo** or the school office, **901 Sue Barnett** as soon as possible. Someone will contact you about your areas of interest. If you have any questions, please call the school office or the **VIPS coordinators at 682-0241 (Tomasita) or 956-7809 (Anita)**.

NAME(S) _____

PHONE _____ ADDRESS _____

I can speak Spanish YES/NO _____

PLEASE CHECK ALL AREAS OF INTEREST:

- ADOPT-A-STUDENT: Tutoring to provide individual attention as needed in the areas of reading, math, and writing.
- Telling stories or reading books to a child or small groups of children.
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- Calling homes of absent children (daily 12:00 - 1:00 pm).
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- Helping with Market Day once a month Friday 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm.
- Helping with the following contests/events:
 - Spelling bee History fair Science fair Art and posters for the carnival
 - National Library Week poster contest Odyssey of the Mind
- Helping at the Fall Festival Saturday, November 13, 1993.
- Helping with the production, layout, or distribution of the Yearbook
- Taking pictures for the Yearbook
- Helping with the production of the Eagle Eye newsletter
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I can help on:

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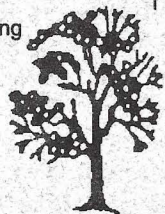
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Garden Oaks Elementary Seeking Tutors

Adopt-A-Student is a new exciting program being offered for the students at Garden Oaks Elementary. The main objective is to help those students needing to improve their TAAS test scores in the areas of reading, writing or mathematics. The concept of the Adopt-A-Student program is to provide individualized tutoring over an extended period of time thus enabling the student and volunteer to recognize improvements and celebrate accomplishments in the targeted area(s).

Volunteers are asked to give at least one hour per week tutoring an assigned student in reading, writing, or mathematics for a set period of time such as 9 weeks, a semester, or the entire school year depending on the volunteer's commitment. Bilingual volunteers are especially needed. The tutoring will be conducted on the school campus during school hours (8 am - 3 pm) at a designated classroom. Resources, including a computer, will be made available to the tutor/student pairs.

For additional information or to volunteer, please call **Trish Mehrkam at 688-4008**. Remember, when you give your time at Garden Oaks you give AND receive a smile, a hug, a spark for learning, a glimpse of the future, a message of caring, hope for tomorrow, and a happier today!

GRACIOUS GARDEN OAKS HOME FOR SALE

Tom Glass and Kathie Youngblood's home at

3114 Lawrence (& 32nd).

3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths.

Totally updated kitchen:

Corian counter tops, quarry tile floor, etc.

Hardwood floors. Huge rooms.

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Garden Properties



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686-5454

Garden Oaks Elementary Seeking Tutors

Adopt-A-Student is a new exciting program being offered for the students at Garden Oaks Elementary. The main objective is to help those students needing to improve their TAAS test scores in the areas of reading, writing or mathematics. The concept of the Adopt-A-Student program is to provide individualized tutoring over an extended period of time thus enabling the student and volunteer to recognize improvements and celebrate accomplishments in the targeted area(s).

Volunteers are asked to give at least one hour per week tutoring an assigned student in reading, writing, or mathematics for a set period of time such as 9 weeks, a semester, or the entire school year depending on the volunteer's commitment. Bilingual volunteers are especially needed. The tutoring will be conducted on the school campus during school hours (8 am - 3 pm) at a designated classroom. Resources, including a computer, will be made available to the tutor/student pairs.

For additional information or to volunteer, please call **Trish Mehrkam at 688-4008**. Remember, when you give your time at Garden Oaks you give AND receive a smile, a hug, a spark for learning, a glimpse of the future, a message of caring, hope for tomorrow, and a happier today!

GRACIOUS GARDEN OAKS HOME FOR SALE

Tom Glass and Kathie Youngblood's home at

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3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths.

Totally updated kitchen:

Corian counter tops, quarry tile floor, etc.

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Garden Properties



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Greenwood continued

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Councilmember At Large Position
No. 3

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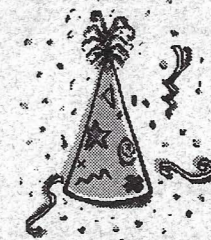
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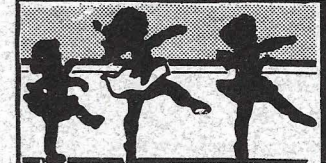


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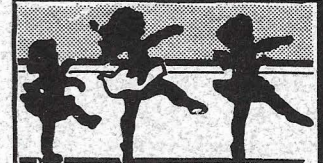


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which this country was built, those being the sanctity of individual rights and the private ownership of the means of production. At what point in our short history did we go from being a nation of enterprising, entrepreneurial, productive people to a nation of mindless and collectivist sheep. We appear enthusiastic and anxious to "sacrifice" our personal liberties for the "common good" of a collective society. The issue of zoning may seem to some an isolated incident and not cause for alarm, but there is a trend in this country, a developing attitude that the individual and his rights are subordinate to society at large. "Ownership of Private Property" means the right to determine the use of, the management of and disposal of such property. Ownership without control is a fraud.

What is even more disturbing is our willingness to turn over to a government bureaucracy one more area of jurisdiction when government has done nothing but abuse, mismanage and generally bungle just about everything that has been put before it. We have a welfare and entitlement system threateningly close to sinking the ship, a burdensome tax system that forces redistribution of wealth by extorting from those that produce and handing out to the non-producers.

If land use is to be regulated at all, it should be done by the invisible hand of the free market and the citizens most affected, namely those that reside in the communities in question. This may be best accomplished by what the pro-zoning crowd refers to as tools only for the affluent, i.e. Deed Restrictions. The pro-zoners are quick to point out the successes of the planned communities to our north and southwest. However, land use in these communities is not regulated by City Hall but by the residents of the community. We need only recognize the fifty plus years of success we have enjoyed in our own community through enforced Deed Restrictions. There

is more than just the question of zoning at stake here. It is the principle that man is the means to his own end. It is the philosophy of freedom, the principle that all our rights are derivative of our property rights. And once those rights are abrogated, it is just a matter of time before other rights are compromised or lost.

We will vote NO in November on the zoning issue.

Frances & Dale Schwartz,
Section 5

NOISE! NOISE! NOISE!

As nice as Garden Oaks is, those who live within a couple blocks of the 610 loop get a constant dose of background noise from the traffic. It used to be that the only way noise abatement walls could be installed was if there were modifications to the highway. In the past year or two, there has been a change on this front. Now, if you can demonstrate that the background noise exceeds a minimum threshold, the Texas Department of Transportation (DOT) will schedule and install noise abatement walls. In order to get the testing underway, the residents most effected by the problem have to petition the DOT to do the tests. I know that this is a real problem for some of the people on 30th Street. If there are a few people who would like to start the petitions for the noise testing, contact **Paul Bick (869-5559)** and we can get the project underway. If the noise level is above the minimum, it should take 18 to 24 months to get the walls in place.

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An Overview of Montessori Education

*Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles by **Christine Adams, Ph.D.** Dr. Adams is a psychologist who specializes in children and families.*

Dr. Maria Montessori, the first woman physician to graduate from University of Rome Medical School, founded the original Montessori school in a working class district of Rome in 1907. She applied scientific methods to her ideas about the education of children. She carefully studied children in the classroom setting and kept materials and teaching methods which proved effective over time. Her goal was to discover what children needed in order to maximize their learning rather than only giving them what society thought they needed.

Dr. Montessori believed that children learn best when the growth of the "whole child" is considered. By "whole child", she meant that children's intellectual, social, psychological, and emotional needs all must be taken into account and supported in the learning environment. The Montessori method has evolved into a very consistent system of education which is both a concrete view of child development and a comprehensive set of principles for guiding this development. Montessori programs are found internationally because these principles work with children across diverse cultures.

What are some key elements of the Montessori philosophy?

1. Dr. Montessori believed that people are not really taught by other people. She thought people learn because they have a natural interest in knowing about their world and solving problems. She felt that the educational environment should cultivate a child's natural curiosity and desire to learn. Therefore, Montessori educators see learning not as the passing of standard information from teacher to student but a process through which a child develops personally effective

strategies for the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The teacher's role is to guide the child's self-learning. Another central Montessori principle is that the best foundation for successful academic performance combines positive attitudes toward learning and effective problem-solving methods. Dr. Montessori thought these fundamental skills and attitudes needed to continue into adulthood long after formal education has ended if individuals were to be successful in the world of work.

2. In the Montessori approach, each child's individuality is respected. Each child is allowed to develop his or her unique mental, physical, and psychological abilities at his or her own pace. It is presumed that all children will actively pursue learning when obstacles to learning are removed and materials are provided which stimulate a child's natural curiosity and need to solve problems. A child will naturally develop self-motivation, responsibility, and persistence when these conditions exist.

3. Dr. Montessori thought that children needed to experience success if they were to stay motivated to learn. She defined success as the mastery of a skill and the fundamentals necessary to go on to the next level of that skill. She also thought of success as getting things to follow in the proper sequence and getting things in order. She believed that over time physical order arising out of a proper sequence led to the "mental order" necessary for skill acquisition and effective problem-solving. Dr. Montessori developed concrete, hands on, self-correcting learning materials and a specific sequence of presentation for each material to ensure success. Children only move on to the next learning level after they have successfully mastered the previous level.

If this all sounds "pie-in-the-sky", consider that research clearly indicates that children from all

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