

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

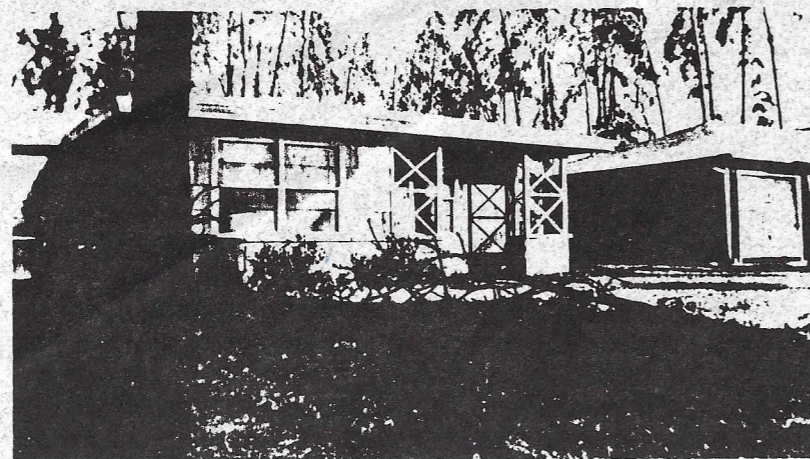
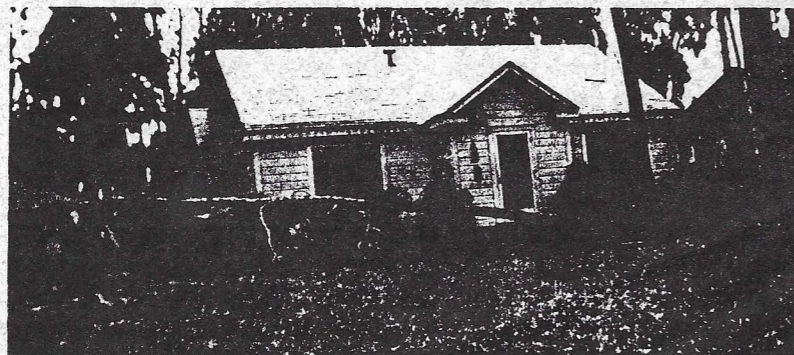
P.O. Box 92155,
Houston, 77206
Paul Bick, President
223 W. 33rd • 869-5559
Suzanne Debien, V. P., Membership
303 W. 34th • 861-5040
Jan Koenig, Treasurer/Com. Garden
????????????????
Donald Howie, Secretary • 680-3420
Janis Spears, Vice-President, Editor
813 W. 32nd • 861-6221

Beautification
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Citizens-on-Patrol
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Peggy Ingels 861-7073
Gazette Hand Delivery
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GARDEN OAKS Gazette

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Will was the trash collector who came around twice a week with an old, old jalopy and went to the back of each yard to pick up our trash. Once a month he rode around on horseback to collect his fee of 50 cents. At one time in joking with **Will I** said, "Will I don't have 50 cents today." **Will** said "that's alright **Mr. Englehardt**, here is your receipt, when you get 50 cents then you can pay me."
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3. **Mr. Crain**, the original developer, had his first office at the corner of Shepherd and 30th Streets. **Mr. Crain** also was the developer of Sylvan Beach.
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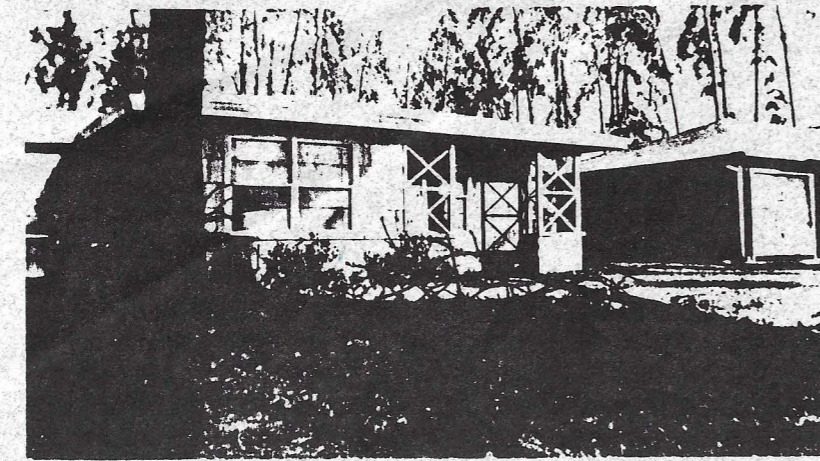
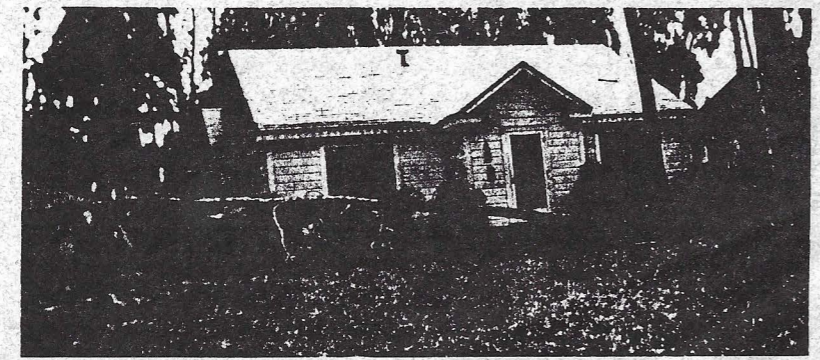
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St. Matthew's

United Methodist Church

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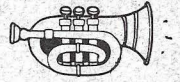
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ages 3 mos. - 5 yrs.
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Senior Adult Exercise
Mon, Tues, Thur - 4:15-5:00

4300 N. Shepherd at Crosstimbers
697-0671

Pastors: Don Goodwin, Don Raschke



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2nd Stories
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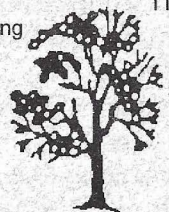
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- 705 W. 39th St.
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- 855 Azalea
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**HARRY JAMES
BUILDER**
467-5320

**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
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and area specialist

RE/MAX-METRO

528-1800

680-8550

President's Message

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there early, you may be elected to office as well! See you there.

Paul Bick

Editor's Note

Thank you to those of you who chose to share your thoughts, memories and pictures of Garden Oaks. I suppose I can speak for the newer residents. **Tim** and I purchased our home two years ago in October, 1991. Moving to Garden Oaks was originally Tim's idea (and a very good one, honey!) I was determined not to move outside the loop and Tim dragged me over here to look at houses kicking and screaming (actually we were in the car and I wasn't kicking but I was pretty close to screaming!). Wow! Once I stopped whining about the loop thing, and really started looking at the neighborhood, I started thinking "How can we NOT buy a house here?" Then, of course, I had to figure out a way to convince Tim that moving to Garden Oaks had been my idea all along!

Since moving to Garden Oaks, I have found that the "Loop thing" really isn't a problem. We are so close to almost anything you might want to do or any place that you might want to go that I haven't missed being centrally located in Montrose. AND much to my surprise, I have found that my morning commute is seldom longer than 20 minutes and my afternoon trek home is considerably shorter than that. We love our large yard, and so do our dogs! It's nice to be able to walk in our neighborhood, speak to our neighbors and enjoy the beautiful trees and yards that we are all so lucky to have.

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Tim and I had lived in six different houses in three different states and the result of our seventh move, the one to Garden Oaks, is that we feel that we are finally home.

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grouped in mixed ages usually 3-6; 6-8 or 9; and 9-11 or 12 (i.e., first through third; fourth through 6th grade).

Role of the teacher

The teacher is a guide in learning and the method is best described as indirect. Whereas a traditional role for a teacher is one of giving information to a child, in the Montessori system, a child learns directly from the learning materials with the teacher or an older child assisting and guiding the work. The teacher becomes one of many sources of information, not the only source. In addition to giving specific lessons with Montessori materials, a Montessori teacher's time is spent moving about the room, observing children to be aware of their needs, observing and assessing their progress, intervening or assisting when necessary, reinforcing ground rules, suggesting work to children and making comments which assist a child's learning. The teacher takes an active role in helping each child achieve his or her goals. The overall goal of the Montessori teacher is to ensure that children choose a variety of work which interests and challenges them at just the right level of difficulty.

Montessori teachers do very little teaching to the whole class at one time. Teachers work with each child individually around learning activities or with a small group. With the guidance of the teacher, the child decides what learning activities to choose and what the pace of learning will be. This teaches a child how to plan, manage time, and make decisions. Children work at their own pace, but rarely underachieve because the materials and work are interesting and enjoyable to them.

Montessori materials

Dr. Montessori believed that abstract concepts such as decimal or sound-symbol systems could be learned by very young children if they used concrete materials that could be physically manipulated. Therefore, Montessori materials are "manipulatives" (tangible objects) for the child, not teaching aids for the teacher. They were developed by watching what things and activities naturally interested children. By

design, many of the materials are self-correcting. This means that a child will see an error (without being told by the teacher) and be able to figure out a correct solution on her or his own. There are two important points about the material being self-correcting. One, mistakes are seen as useful information necessary for problem solving and not "failures" or "terrible" events. The other important point is that the emphasis becomes using the correct process not getting the right answer. This helps children develop creative, problem-solving skills.

Most materials have themes such as size differences. Children receive a lesson from the teacher with the material before doing it on their own. Materials have stages of difficulty and as children master one level of difficulty, they go on to the next level. This makes use of a child's need for success and repetition for learning to become permanent and enjoyable. Children learn at their own pace maximizing their chances of only doing work they understand and can do. This keeps children motivated to learn because they experience success.

The only way to fully appreciate Montessori is to spend some time in a high quality Montessori classroom. The myths about Montessori will become apparent. It will become clear that Montessori is not only for gifted children nor just for disadvantaged children nor even only for the child who is by nature quiet and self-motivated. It will become clear that the classroom is not oppressively rigid nor wildly permissive. Because the Montessori method responds to a child's uniqueness and the development of all aspects of the self, children learn over time the important qualities that will help them be successful adults. They learn problem-solving, respect for others, responsibility, self-discipline, persistence and motivation to continue learning throughout their lives.

Montessori goes beyond basic academic skills and attempts to reach more complex aspects of learning and motivation that are fundamental in a child's course of development. We

have all known individuals who had great potential that was never fully actualized because non-academic, non-intellectual matters interfered. We have also known individuals who could not benefit from traditional teaching methods (how many of you remember how to derive a square root?). Our world is rapidly changing and it is becoming more important to help prepare our children to be flexible and self-directed in reasoning and problem solving; personally responsible; and able to collaborate with and support others. Montessori develops these qualities along with teaching all the necessary academic skills. Sometimes "Montessorians" can come across as zealots. Perhaps this is because the Montessori method seems to offer hope that our educational system can serve all our children well. To serve them well serves us all well.

For more information about the parent group interested in Montessori at Garden Oaks, call **Denise at 686-9643**.

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- Full Service Lawn Maintenance
- Fertilizing
- Tree Trimming
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Garden Oaks Resident with ERA Home Brokers

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TO LEARN ABOUT
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REAL ESTATE
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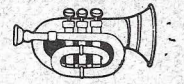
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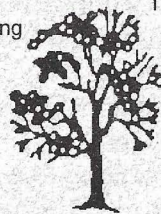
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Most materials have themes such as size differences. Children receive a lesson from the teacher with the material before doing it on their own. Materials have stages of difficulty and as children master one level of difficulty, they go on to the next level. This makes use of a child's need for success and repetition for learning to become permanent and enjoyable. Children learn at their own pace maximizing their chances of only doing work they understand and can do. This keeps children motivated to learn because they experience success.

The only way to fully appreciate Montessori is to spend some time in a high quality Montessori classroom. The myths about Montessori will become apparent. It will become clear that Montessori is not only for gifted children nor just for disadvantaged children nor even only for the child who is by nature quiet and self-motivated. It will become clear that the classroom is not oppressively rigid nor wildly permissive. Because the Montessori method responds to a child's uniqueness and the development of all aspects of the self, children learn over time the important qualities that will help them be successful adults. They learn problem-solving, respect for others, responsibility, self-discipline, persistence and motivation to continue learning throughout their lives.

Montessori goes beyond basic academic skills and attempts to reach more complex aspects of learning and motivation that are fundamental in a child's course of development. We

have all known individuals who had great potential that was never fully actualized because non-academic, non-intellectual matters interfered. We have also known individuals who could not benefit from traditional teaching methods (how many of you remember how to derive a square root?). Our world is rapidly changing and it is becoming more important to help prepare our children to be flexible and self-directed in reasoning and problem solving; personally responsible; and able to collaborate with and support others. Montessori develops these qualities along with teaching all the necessary academic skills. Sometimes "Montessorians" can come across as zealots. Perhaps this is because the Montessori method seems to offer hope that our educational system can serve all our children well. To serve them well serves us all well.

For more information about the parent group interested in Montessori at Garden Oaks, call **Denise at 686-9643**.

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a 12 year G.O. resident

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Jeffrey W. Rees, Pastor

Montessori - Classrooms, Teachers & Materials

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

Dr. Montessori designed her classroom environment, class materials, and the role of the teacher around her philosophy of how children best learn and her vision of the overarching goals of education. Since she thought that all children were naturally interested in learning, she believed that when given a "carefully prepared environment" children would develop self-discipline, enthusiasm for learning, an organized approach to problem-solving, independence and academic skills. Methods and educational materials were developed which stimulated a child's natural curiosity and built upon the child's desire to "know things" and to be a capable, competent individual. She believed that teaching methods and materials have the dual purpose of giving a child specific information while simultaneously whetting his or her appetite for learning.

Dr. Montessori believed that children learn differently than adults because of the way cognitive abilities develop as we mature. Her model is similar to that of the developmental psychologist Jean Piaget in that they both describe a reliable sequence of steps or "stages" of cognitive development that everyone goes through. Each stage has its own typical age range and one stage must be completed before going on to the next stage. Each stage is a sort of unique and important building block and the way children learn at each stage is qualitatively different. Learning methods must be modified to fit the child according to their particular developmental stage.

A central idea in Montessori is that of "sensitive periods" for learning. A "sensitive period" is a crucial time in a person's development where that individual is most open to a particular type of learning. For example, the sensitive period for language development is in early childhood. Learning a second language is much more difficult as an adult because

the sensitive period for language acquisition is past. Dr. Montessori believed that the classroom should take advantage of these sensitive periods by allowing the child freedom in selecting individual activities which correspond to his or her own "sensitive period".

A Montessori classroom is very different from a traditional classroom primarily in the areas of classroom structure, the role of teacher, and the materials used for learning. The classroom is a "prepared environment" where the goal is to remove obstacles to learning while providing materials which stimulate a child's natural curiosity, need to solve problems and interests. The teacher is a guide to learning rather than the only direct source of learning. Materials are tangible and designed to be largely self-instructional.

The Montessori classroom

The Montessori classroom is divided into four major areas: practical life (or daily living), sensorial (i.e., color, shape, dimension, etc.), math and language. Another area is a science and social studies area with maps, geography puzzles, cultural items and "discovery" type materials (i.e., leaf shapes, types of rocks). Materials are on open shelves at the child's level. Children choose work they wish to do during work periods but must have contact with the entire range of materials each week. Therefore, children have freedom to choose but within a highly structured environment.

Progress in each area of study is carefully monitored. Children work with materials individually, in dyads or small groups. Collaboration among students to work with the materials and to share information with one another is a standard practice in a Montessori classroom. There is usually a quiet hum in a Montessori classroom while children work. Children are allowed to move about of their own accord as they change their "work" throughout the day. They are not allowed to disturb others who are working. Respect for the environment and others is actively enforced. The children are

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Do your civic duty and come on out and VOTE!

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Barnyard Bash

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(Submitted by Mrs. H.O. Eichler)

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Selling

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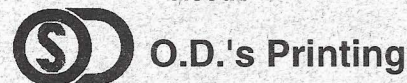
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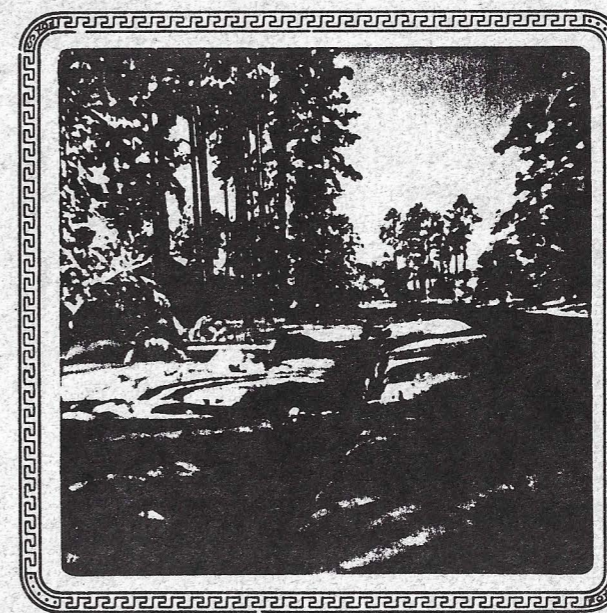
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Kirk Dice

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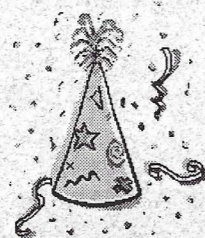
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Neighbors

Helping Neighbors

Slowly but surely, the information is coming back from Block Captains in Sections 4 and 5. While we wish interest was 100%, we appreciate those of you who have worked so hard gathering information and meeting your neighbors.

We are excited about being chosen as one of the neighborhoods to receive attention from the City of Houston. Street lights are proposed in darkened areas and barricades are being considered to prevent excessive speed and cut throughs. This should go a long way toward keeping our area safe for our residents. Speed limits have also been discussed and if you live near one of the busy through streets such as Golf or Alba, you certainly understand the consideration.

G.O. Elementary School News You Can Use

MARKET DAY is off to a great start this school year. The profit for September was \$300. Thanks to everyone who participated.

If you haven't tried Market Day yet, give it a try. There are approximately 150 items to choose from; something for everyone. You can save yourself a trip to the grocery store and support GOElementary at the same time. Pick up an order form at the school office. Items will be delivered to the school for pick-up on November 12th.

TUTORS are still needed for the Adopt-a-Student Program. For additional information, please call **Trish Mehrkam at 699-4008**.

The GO Elementary **FALL FESTIVAL** will be held **Sat., November 13**, with food, a flea market, crafts and games being the center of attention from **1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** At **5:00 p.m.** the action switches to a live auction and, of course, **MORE FOOD**.

As a friendly reminder, the SPARKS park is HISD property which they share with the community. If you have a party or picnic there PLEASE carry away your trash. The trash receptacles are not large and numerous enough to accommodate the many gatherings that occur each weekend.

It's a Crime

Criminals rarely strike at random. They choose a victim. They look for someone to attack...Quickly...Easily...and they look for someone who represents little or no RISK to them. A person can be a "quick, easy, low risk" target when they are:

walking to the car after working late in the office;

stranded on the side of the road with a flat tire or car trouble;

just being home alone. These situations can be very risky unless the individual has a safety plan.

We are pleased to have **Citizens Against Crime** speak at our next Civic Club meeting on **November 2, at 7:30 p.m.** They will be presenting a fast-paced, humorous and informative program called **"LIVING SAFELY IN A DANGEROUS WORLD"**.

Citizens Against Crime is a national safety awareness organization. Their presentations have been acclaimed as "the very best of its kind". The program is fun-filled and informative.

We will have a certified consultant with Citizens Against Crime as our speaker. They will share some practical ideas to prevent involvement in assault crimes, ideas that can be used in the home, on the job, in the car and while traveling.

Be sure to attend this enlightening and entertaining program!!!

Garden Club

The Garden Club will meet at **6:30 p.m. on November 10th** at **Susan Spomei's home at 336 W. 32nd Street**. There will be a special speaker, so your plans to be there! If you need more information call **Julie at 861-6204**.

Gazette Ad Rates

\$40 per month -
\$200 for 6 months
\$385 for 1 year
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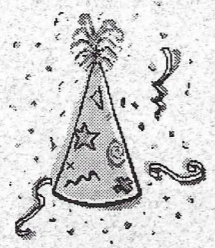
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Helping Neighbors

Slowly but surely, the information is coming back from Block Captains in Sections 4 and 5. While we wish interest was 100%, we appreciate those of you who have worked so hard gathering information and meeting your neighbors.

We are excited about being chosen as one of the neighborhoods to receive attention from the City of Houston. Street lights are proposed in darkened areas and barricades are being considered to prevent excessive speed and cut throughs. This should go a long way toward keeping our area safe for our residents. Speed limits have also been discussed and if you live near one of the busy through streets such as Golf or Alba, you certainly understand the consideration.

G.O. Elementary School News You Can Use

MARKET DAY is off to a great start this school year. The profit for September was \$300. Thanks to everyone who participated.

If you haven't tried Market Day yet, give it a try. There are approximately 150 items to choose from; something for everyone. You can save yourself a trip to the grocery store and support GOElementary at the same time. Pick up an order form at the school office. Items will be delivered to the school for pick-up on November 12th.

TUTORS are still needed for the Adopt-a-Student Program. For additional information, please call **Trish Mehrkam at 699-4008**.

The GO Elementary **FALL FESTIVAL** will be held **Sat., November 13**, with food, a flea market, crafts and games being the center of attention from **1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** At **5:00 p.m.** the action switches to a live auction and, of course, **MORE FOOD**.

As a friendly reminder, the SPARKS park is HISD property which they share with the community. If you have a party or picnic there PLEASE carry away your trash. The trash receptacles are not large and numerous enough to accommodate the many gatherings that occur each weekend.

It's a Crime

Criminals rarely strike at random. They choose a victim. They look for someone to attack...Quickly...Easily...and they look for someone who represents little or no RISK to them. A person can be a "quick, easy, low risk" target when they are:

- walking to the car after working late in the office;
 - stranded on the side of the road with a flat tire or car trouble;
 - just being home alone.
- These situations can be very risky unless the individual has a safety plan.

We are pleased to have **Citizens Against Crime** speak at our next Civic Club meeting on **November 2, at 7:30 p.m.** They will be presenting a fast-paced, humorous and informative program called **"LIVING SAFELY IN A DANGEROUS WORLD"**.

Citizens Against Crime is a national safety awareness organization. Their presentations have been acclaimed as "the very best of its kind". The program is fun-filled and informative.

We will have a certified consultant with Citizens Against Crime as our speaker. They will share some practical ideas to prevent involvement in assault crimes, ideas that can be used in the home, on the job, in the car and while traveling.

Be sure to attend this enlightening and entertaining program!!!

Garden Club

The Garden Club will meet at **6:30 p.m. on November 10th** at **Susan Spomei's home at 336 W. 32nd Street**. There will be a special speaker, so your plans to be there! If you need more information call **Julie at 861-6204**.

Gazette Ad Rates

- \$40 per month -
 - \$200 for 6 months
 - \$385 for 1 year
 - Flyers are \$75.00
- Deadline for December Gazette is November 10th**

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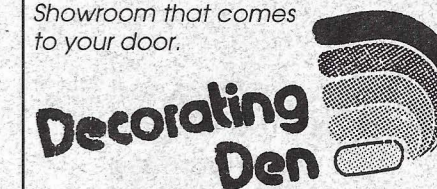
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