

# Garden Oaks Gazette

VOLUME 17, No. 10

CIRCULATION 1550

OCTOBER 1994

## CIVIC CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the **Garden Oaks Civic Club** will be held at **7:00 p.m. on October 4**, at the **Garden Oaks Baptist Church, 3206 North Shepherd**. Plan on attending, we have a great program scheduled. Refreshments will be provided by Stan Woodhead, of ERA Homebrokers. Last month's refreshments were provided by Terry Jeanes, of Re/Max Metro.

## A NEIGHBORHOOD BEEF

What would Garden Oaks be like if residents joined together to eliminate neighborhood problems. The answer is simple - Garden Oaks would be a much better subdivision with rising property values.

As an anonymous resident of Garden Oaks, I have one special complaint about my neighborhood that might be solved if residents would join me by stating their feelings against the defacement of the grand old Garden Oaks Theater at North Shepherd and 38th Street.

I wish everyone in Garden Oaks would call the Realtor who is handling the sale of Garden Oaks Theater. Since the theater went out of business, the tenant Latino Furniture has been allowed to display their inventory all across the front sidewalk of the theater. We already have enough car lots on Shepherd and Durham - south of the Loop, and Shepherd - north of Pinemont. Now we have an "outdoor for inside furniture mart" right in our own neighborhood. I don't think we need this eyesore.

Although I have not been in the store, I am sure the prices are more than reasonable because the furniture does not look very expensive. If I were out of my mind and wanted to buy one of their velvet (?) couches, I would have to look very closely to be sure it had not been faded by the sun or soaked by rain!

I called Latino Furniture and asked if they would leave their furniture inside. That did not work! Then I called the city to find out if there is an ordinance against this type of display. There is no ordinance of this nature concerning private property. The city assured me they would check to see if the furniture is blocking a path. This will not solve the problem.

Some residents feel the neighborhood has gotten what it deserves because a majority of the other residents did not support the theater when it was in existence. I can sympathize with that thought, however I do not want my property value to suffer because its surrounding neighborhood is becoming undesirable. I am already uncertain about what lies ahead for this fine upstanding old landmark! What will happen when it is sold? Will it become a fast food center, an outdoor flea market or a car lot?

Please call the Realtor's telephone number that is on the billboard in front of the theater (**864-2582**) and ask him to market this property by keeping it's appearance clean and professional.

## NEIGHBORHOODS TO STANDARD

*By Rick Stark*

Residents of Sections Two through Five have probably noticed that the street repairs and overlayment projects are running behind schedule. This is due to more repair work being needed than originally thought. It may be completed by late September or early October.

The street lights have been updated with a new type of bulb and hopefully all of the dark spots have been eliminated by trimming back the trees as needed. The ditches have been cleaned and hopefully our drainage improved.

If anyone is still having problems with their street lighting or ditches, please send a **fax** to me at **(713) 735-6099**, describing the problem, where it is, and your phone number. Hopefully, with your help, we can finish repairing our problems.

A special thanks to **Ken Morowski** and his helper for mowing the park at Sue Barnett and 42nd Street.

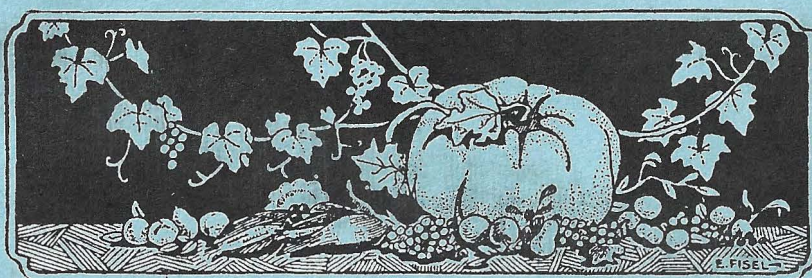
## GO-COP NEWS

*By Bill Chastain*

Out of the 744 hours in August, patrollers were able to be visible 111 of those hours. This should in general keep the crime lower than the month of July. As a rule of thumb, the more hours patrolled brings less crime. In July, 89 and three-fourth hours were patrolled and the crime statistics are: one auto theft about 8:00 p.m. in the 700 block of W. 43rd on July 1, 1994; one burglary about midnight in the 1000 block of Gardenia on July 6, 1994; and one assault about 3:00 p.m. in the 1000 block of W. 43rd on July 15, 1994. It's been said crooks are lazy and I would like to add - they can get help from inconsiderate homeowners that do not try something to stop them. Neighbors watching out for each other is the best way, and being in the COP is another.

We are happy to welcome Casey Magna, Ruses Waddle and Mike Harare to our patrol ranks. And to present Patsy Gannet a "T" shirt for the completion of 85 hours of patrolling, which her shirt signifies.

We must be more diligent in safeguarding our vehicles, such as: locking them, parking off the street, turning front wheels at an angle, setting alarms, etc. Stealing a car and just going for a joy ride could become an everyday occurrence because little or no action is taken against the offender..



## FROM THE EDITOR . . . .

As I begin to edit each issue of the *Gazette* I looked forward to reading the news and feature articles our neighbors write. One of my favorite's is **INSIDE GARDEN OAKS**. I always know **Shannon Nelson's** interior design column will be educational, helpful and good for several chuckles and a rip-roaring laugh.

I also enjoy **BUNNY & KIKI**. Unfortunately, they are not in this issue. Those naughty ladies are probably spying in some other neighborhood this month - but don't worry the Garden Oaks COPS are looking for them. They'll be back!

**Marc Roberts** is another writer who deserves a round of applause. Although his articles about the Neighborhood Traffic Project are not humorous, he has amused me with the number of changes he makes in his articles before publication. My fax machine has blown two gaskets receiving revised copies from Marc. He has done a tremendous job keeping us informed.

These writers and the others I have not mentioned in this issue are really good neighbors. It's nice to know they're nearby!

**-Jude Patronella**

## RECYCLE, RECYCLE , RECYCLE

### WHAT?

#### Paper/Cardboard

Newspaper, White paper, Computer paper, Cardboard/box (corrugated box, cereal boxes, cracker boxes, cardboard, etc.)

#### Metal

Aluminum, Cooper, Brass, Tin Stainless steel, Lead, Radiators, Iron, Carbide

#### Plastic

(look for the triangular recycling symbol with the number 1 or 2)

Clear soda bottles and Milk jugs

#### Glass

Clear and Color separated

Please separate your materials because we are paid different prices for each item and it makes the drop if quicker for everyone.

### Where?

Garden Oaks Theater parking lot

If you have a problem transporting your materials to the site have a neighbor take it for you or call one of the officers to get on the pickup list.

### When?

**Second Saturday of every month** from **8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** In case of bad weather, it will be postponed to the third Saturday and signs will be posted at the site.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Suzanne Debien*

Hello and welcome to fall, 1994! The season is changing, the air is cooling and the year is marching ahead. I want to tell you of all the latest happenings. Our Civic Club meeting in September was great and we enjoyed Senator John Whitmire's update on legislative events. He is always an informative speaker, as those who heard him can attest! We are deeply grateful Senator Whitmire could clear his calendar to be with us and we look forward to our next meeting on **Tuesday, October 4, 7:00 p.m. at Garden Oaks Baptist Church on Shepherd at 34th Street.**

Several residents have inquired about the "Home Tour" which is normally held every fall. At this time, the tour has been delayed until 1995 and a date has not been set. There are many reasons for this delay, not the least of which is the time consuming efforts that must accompany such an endeavor to organize tour homes and prepare for the event. We know that the tour's delay will only help us enjoy it more when it occurs. Watch your Gazette for details as they unfold, and we promise to keep you informed.

I want to take this opportunity to give thanks to an unsung hero in our midst. **Kathy Marek**, a resident of Garden Oaks, has been working madly behind the scenes on our behalf. Most of us are unaware that the Garden Oaks Civic Association has had a storage container for our use for many years. No one person's home could be used as the officers in charge change from year to year. Earlier this summer, we received notice that we would have to vacate the container, which left us "high and dry" and without a home for all our supplies and records. Kathy Marek worked tirelessly to secure another home for our goodies, **FREE OF CHARGE** to the Civic Association and then took charge of moving the items for us.

We are very grateful for her efforts and when you see her in the near future, please take time to thank her in person! She has contributed greatly to our association and we say a heartfelt **THANK YOU** from all of the members of the Garden Oaks Civic Association.

I look forward to seeing you **October 4th** at our next meeting.

## Garden Oaks Elementary

### School Notes

*By Linda Ross,*

*PTA President*

Our children are back in school. Do be careful & watchful when driving in school zones. Our first PTA meeting was held September 13 with Open House and visits to all classrooms. There are a lot of activities coming up.

We invite parents, relatives and neighbors to join the largest child-advocacy volunteer group in America. Our PTA Membership Drive continues until October 14. Dues are \$2.50 per person. For more information contact Membership Chairperson **Anita Cuevas at 956-7809.**

**MARKET DAY** is a fundraising food cooperative which sells quality, name brand food at very competitive prices and gives parents and neighbors the opportunity to support the school with each purchase. Market Day raised over \$2,100 last year for the PTA Special Projects. For more information, contact Market Day Chairperson **Margaret Welker at 880-0837.**

**BE A VOLUNTEER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (VIPS)!!** Large and small jobs available; flexible hours; all work greatly appreciated by our students, faculty, and staff. For more information, contact VIPS Chairperson, **Angela Dickson at 956-2506** or Assistant VIP Chairperson, **Tomasita Botello (Habla Espanol) at 682-0241.**

Our biggest social event and fund raiser, the **Fall Family Festival** is scheduled for **Saturday, November 12.** Wonderful prizes are already coming in for our exciting Live Auction. Food, booths, and activities are being selected. If you would like more information or to make donations, please contact Budget and Finance Chairperson, **Peggy Riley at 691-5243.**

**BEAUTIFICATION DAY** is scheduled for mid October. This is a Saturday morning devoted to "sprucing-up" the grounds, shrubs, and flower beds on the school campus. If you can donate time, tools, or materials, contact Beautification and Environmental Issues Chairperson, **Joan Harman at 695-8318.**

Our **October 11 meeting** will feature a **Halloween Pumpkin Decorating Contest** and **Speaker - School Board Member Paula Arnold.** For more information contact **Linda Ross at 692-6667.**

## GARDEN OAKS SECTION ONE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC PROJECT UPDATE

By Marc Roberts

The petition drive for the proposed traffic management plan for Garden Oaks Section One (between Shepherd and Yale) is now in progress. Plans for the petition drive were announced in previous editions of the *Gazette* and in a mailing to all Section One residents earlier this summer.

Official Garden Oaks Traffic Committee volunteers are conducting the door-to-door campaign to explain the proposed traffic management plan, answer questions, and to obtain homeowner signatures on the petition.

The petition will provide Garden Oaks Section One homeowners the opportunity to officially register their support or opposition to the proposed plan. If you are the owner of a home in Section One (between Shepherd and Yale) and you have not been contacted by a volunteer by October 15 then please call Marc Roberts at 861-8512 or Ann Spiering at 862-6138.

The goal of the proposed plan is to effectively manage through-traffic in Garden Oaks by making physical changes on Garden Oaks neighborhood streets which alter traffic circulation routes and/or reduce speeding without preventing public and emergency vehicle access to Garden Oaks or diverting traffic through another neighborhood.

The proposed neighborhood traffic management plan was prepared by traffic engineer consultants assigned by the City of Houston together with input from the residents of Garden Oaks. Public meetings to solicit comment from Garden Oaks residents concerning specific traffic management proposals were conducted in February and April of this year.

## INSURANCE TIPS

By Carol Meyer

Owning your own home is considered the "American Dream." But what happens when the "American Dream" turns into a nightmare? I'd like to share a story with you that really "hit home" for me.

During a recent life insurance appointment with a young couple in their early twenties, I was told a very sad story. The young man of 22 knew that he wanted a life insurance plan that would establish security for his wife and child's future after having seen what his mother went through when his father passed away suddenly at age 46.

For years this man's parents had worked hard to support their eight children. As a matter of fact, they even found enough money to make additional payment toward paying off their mortgage early. There was only one problem with this strategy. It won't work if the wage-earner of the family is no longer there. In this case, the mother (who had not worked outside the home in years) found herself unable to finish paying off the house. It didn't take long for the house to be foreclosed. This meant that the mother was forced to move her family out of the house and into a small apartment. All of the equity she and her husband had put into the house was lost.

This was an unfortunate situation and one that could have been prevented with the proper financial planning. Had the mother and father taken the extra money they put into paying down their mortgage early and put it into a life insurance policy, the house would have been paid off in case of death.

The best part about certain types of life insurance is that you can benefit from them even while you are living. Here's how. Certain kinds of life insurance policies earn interest on part of the money put in, which in turn allows for a cash build up that can be withdrawn whenever the cash is needed and used for whatever you desire, such as early liquidation of the mortgage or help in funding a child's education etc.

Other good things about life insurance which most people do not realize are the following: all moneys in a life insurance policy are protected from any debts, judgments or settlements against you; the interest earned in a life insurance policy is tax deferred until you take it out; and the death benefit goes to your beneficiary(ies) tax free and will not be tied up in probate at the death of the insured.

These are just words until you see families that go through real hardships that could have been prevented. An old saying in the insurance industry is that "most people don't plan to fail, they just fail to plan.

*(Because insurance is such a vast subject it is hard for me to cover all aspects of a subject when I write an article. Therefore, I'd like to encourage our readers to write in or fax me any questions you may have regarding home, auto or life insurance and family financial planning. Send your questions to Carol Meyer in care of INSURANCE TIPS, 1019 W. 41st Street or fax your questions to 681-2746.)*

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## INSIDE GARDEN OAKS

By Shannon L. Nelson, ASID

Well, it certainly has been an eventful summer! As fall approaches (thank God!) and the kids are back in school, perhaps your attention is turning to fixing up the little old house. The following excerpts may be of help when considering decorating schemes.

Of all the elements and principles of design, color makes the most dramatic impact on the built environment. To understand this impact let's review some basic color theory. Before designers can communicate color, we must learn a system of organization. Essentially there are three properties of color. Hue, means a color, itself. Remember the little color wheel? Value has to do with the lightness or darkness of a color. Last, but not least, the property of intensity addresses the pureness of a hue, that is, we change intensity by adding other stuff to it. This format does not allow me to elaborate further; besides, color theory can be hypnotically boring. For more information on color organization please refer to any literature outlining Munsell or Ostwald color systems.

When using color it is helpful to understand the difference between color preference and color response. All empirical studies conducted up until the last twenty years or so were color preference in nature. The most famous of which is the Luscher Color Test first presented in 1947 for the diagnosis of personality disorders. Hey, perhaps they have a home version! There is usually a lot of fodder around this old place.

As a designer, color response is of the most significance. While there are many personal, socio-economic, regional, cultural and sex-related variations in color response, there are certain universal reactions to the various colors. Before we address reactions to specific colors (next month's exciting column) let's consider some important principles.

All colors are either "yellow-based" or "blue-based." Men prefer yellow-based colors; women prefer their blue-based equivalents. Further, studies indicate that women can discern a greater variety of colors. Some critics maintain that it is merely because we have a greater color vocabulary due to cultural issues. For example a woman might describe a color as a "sort of deep tomato red with a touch of brown;" whereas a man might say "this is red."

The higher on the socio-economic-academic scale an individual is, the more he

or she will appreciate what we call complex colors. Complex colors are those that require a minimum of three words to describe generically, or a specific, specialized word can be used. An example would be "light, muddy blue-green" or its specific equivalent, "seafoam."

Color blindness occurs more frequently in the male population and is usually confined to the red-green families. Those with this affliction can usually identify a color when isolated. The problem arises when colors are combined. Then perception is grayed with only value changes.

Special populations, such as the elderly need to be addressed when choosing colors. As we age, our corneas become yellow. In order to see white, we must add blue, a color on the opposite side of the spectrum, to neutralize the yellow. This sort of explains all of the little blue-haired ladies . . . they think they look great with their snow-white locks!

This leads to the phenomenon of after-image. After the eye is exposed to strong color for some duration, visual rods become saturated and when your field of vision is changed to white or neutral you will see a ghosting of that color's compliment. To illustrate this, think of a camera's flash (yellow-based light) and seeing spots before your eyes. You may not have recognized this, but they are dark lavender-blue.

Medicine has recognized this principle for years in using surgical green, the opposite or compliment of exposed body tissue. In the office (or home) environment it might be wise to use color accents that are the compliment to what ever color is predominant on the worker's computer screen. All of this is significant as people's accuracy and psychological/physical well-being can be affected.

Now let's address a related phenomenon, simultaneous contrast, generally attributed to Chevreul, a French scientist born in 1786. As director of dyes for the Gobelin tapestries, he received complaints on the lack of stability of certain colors. On investigation, he discovered that this color weakness was caused by the interaction of neighboring hues. In essence, it was discovered that each hue projects its compliment on the adjacent hue. To demonstrate this principle, a test can be made by taking two small squares of red paper and placing one on a violet background, the second on an orange. The red on the violet will appear tinged with yellow, violet's compliment. The red square on the orange

will appear tinged with blue, the compliment of orange. It's O.K. to try this at home, kids..... God, sometimes I worry that I don't have enough to do.....

Colors can also vary dramatically dependent upon lighting conditions. This phenomenon is called metamerism. Generally speaking, slightly diffused sunlight is the best condition in which to select or match colors, but it is wise to analyze materials in all lighting conditions. Incandescent, fluorescent, overcast sky, etc. If materials will be viewed under only one lighting circumstance, exclusively, such as in a windowless commercial interior or residential bathroom, (but don't try to do your make-up in a windowless bathroom) then of course, that condition is of the greatest importance.

To understand metamerism, we need only think of trying to match red accessories to our new red suit. Red metamorphoses more than any other color. What matches in the poorly-lit closet or in the store can have a hideous effect when seen in the light of day. Trust me, I, O-queen of color-coordinated panty-hose.

We must also consider color compensation. If your office is devoid of color stimulation, it is wise to apply the use of a stronger color palette in the home environment and vice-versa. In fact, we are subconsciously driven to this. A dramatic example is realized when a school's white walls, once constantly covered with graffiti, remain unmarked when painted a color.

Colors are perceived as either warm or cool. The warm colors are adjacent to the yellow-red side of the spectrum and the cool colors are on the blue-green side. Cool colors recede or pull away from us, while warm colors advance. This is helpful to note when selecting background colors. For example, if I were choosing paint for a small space, I would lean to the cool side to increase the visual square footage. On the other hand, a vacuous room can be made more intimate by specifying colors in the warm range. Also, always bear in mind that what we are trying to achieve in the words of my dear friend and fellow designer Sandy Astrup-Ustick is "a balance on the continuum between monotony and chaos" when using color or any other "weapons" at our disposal.

As mentioned earlier, geographical response to certain colors is illustrated by survey. In London or Seattle the majority of the population dislikes or responds negatively to gray. This, perhaps due to many overcast days. Conversely, in hot climates, cool

colors are popular. Aqua and turquoise are most well-received in Arizona and New Mexico, this, due to regional acceptance of stone used in ethnic jewelry. Generally speaking, rural populations accept the more simple colors, while metropolitan populations respond best to the complex ones.

Personal response to color can be dramatic and long lasting. If your grandmother's kitchen was painted sky blue and your childhood holds many pleasant memories in that environment, it is entirely possible that you will drawn to sky blue all of your life. Conversely, the memory of an unfair, mean, kindergarten teacher who favored lavender in her apparel may cause you to subconsciously be repelled by this color as an adult.

Next month we will address the universal response to specific colors. This is powerful stuff, huh? Pray for cool weather! See you soon.

## GARDEN CLUB NEWS

By Evelyn Anderson

September's **Yard of the Month** was awarded to **Candace and Don Marullo at 232 W. 33rd**. Their display of caladiums, impatiens, and azaleas under the many large trees in their front yard is very beautiful. Candace told me when they moved in three years ago there wasn't anything, even grass in the front yard. After thinning the trees to get some light they began adding plants. They have been especially successful in getting ground cover to grow under the several large oak trees on the side of the driveway. Their success in planting such a lively shade garden with so many large trees existing on the property, is an inspiration! Congratulations!

The Garden Club has a little old-fashioned tip for all you hibiscus and bougainvillea growers out there. To encourage flowering, put one tablespoon Epson Salts, one tablespoon Salt Peter, and one-half Tablespoon ammonia (not the sudsy kind) in a gallon of water. Water your plants with this and stand back! You can use this every 10 days to 2 weeks and it will produce flowers.

Remember the Garden Club meets the 2nd Thursday of every month. Currently we are meeting in the library in the shopping center at 43rd and Ella at 6:30 p.m.. Anyone interested in gardening is invited and encouraged to come to any of our meetings.

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## THIS IS WHAT I KNOW

*By Marianne Huerter*

HL&P's Land and Right of Way Department (Jim Spurgeon, ph# 623-3125) is speaking with HB&T Railroad's Easement Department (John Pruetz, ph# 222-1133, ext. 3105) in a joint effort to barricade the easement which runs behind our homes along the north side of 34th Street between Shepherd and Yale. The barricade would be erected expressly to prevent unauthorized access to the HL&P and HB&T easements.

But why should I care? Well, here it is folks - plain and simple. Since it is so easy to get back there, burglars are driving onto that easement behind 34th Street, jumping our fences, filling their vehicles with OUR lawn & garden equipment, tools, bicycles, and driving off with the stolen goods. I should know - they broke into my workroom and garage TWICE inside a two week period. I know of at least one of my neighbors who suffered a fate similar to mine.

Now I KNOW the reason HL&P and HB&T are talking to each other about doing this it is NOT for our benefit - they are having vandalism and trash problems of their own along the easement. But I, for one, have been phoning Jim and John to encourage them to get the easements barricaded as soon as possible since it will make the north side of 34th Street a much safer place. Barricades can't prevent crimes - they will only serve as deterrents. But it's a step in the right direction, and I applaud HL&P and HB&T for trying to make this a go.

For the rest of my neighbors on 34th Street - be careful out there, especially at night.

## THIS IS WHAT I DON'T KNOW

*By Marianne Huerter*

All right, maybe you read that last article and noticed that this is the same person who's garage and workroom were burglarized twice in a two week period. Well, maybe you didn't read it, but that's what happened.

What I can't figure out is WHY the Houston Police Department North Shepherd Substation didn't tell their officers patrolling our neighborhood that burglaries such as this were suddenly occurring along 34th Street. OK, OK, in a city filled with crime, maybe the three burglaries I know of don't constitute a "major" problem (I heard there were more, but don't know that for a fact), but I would have been excited if HPD could have at least told their officers on duty to be on the lookout.

Let's take a look at what happened. My neighbor was burglarized. It was reported to the Constable Precinct 1 Office. Three days later, I was burglarized. I reported it to the Constable Precinct 1 Office. I was unaware that my neighbor had already been hit. Two weeks after that I was burglarized, and again I reported it to the Constable Precinct 1 Office. I was still unaware that my neighbor has been hit, but I found out by asking around the neighborhood later that day. The day after the second occurrence, I stopped by the HPD North Shepherd Substation. Officer Ashby told me not burglaries had been reported along 34th Street, and that the HPD officers on patrol were unaware of a problem. With my description of what had been occurring, he agreed to inform the officers on duty.

Maybe, just maybe, the Constable Program that we have in place in Section One should agree to work with the North Shepherd Substation (HPD) - or at the VERY least, directly inform the North Shepherd Substation of criminal activity in our area. In addition, perhaps the Constable Program could be convinced that communicating any series of crimes to residents imminently at risk would be a valuable service. We need all the help and protection we can get.

For my neighbors on 34th Street - be careful out there, especially at night.

## WHERE ARE YOUR PETS???

Are your pets safely tucked in your home or backyard? Please keep your frisky critters at home. Last week some loose dogs managed to break into the Garden Oaks Elementary School rabbit cage. That poor rabbit will not get to see next Easter! Please keep your pets at home where they belong. When terrible things like this happen the pet owner is the one at fault. Please love your pets and take proper care of them.

## TENNIS, ANYONE???

Section One resident **Angie Cruz** is looking for tennis buddies to play very friendly games of tennis. You can contact her at **861-4326**.

## SPOTLIGHT - VIVIAN NEWMAN

*By Carol Meyer*

This month's neighbor in the spotlight is not only known by name, but by many a neighbor who refer to her as the "Caladium Lady." Vivian Newman is an avid gardener and has added lots of color to the neighborhood year after year when her yard comes alive with caladiums every Spring. At last count, she had about 600 in her front yard alone. Newman recently enjoyed the honor of having her yard named as Garden Oaks "Yard of the Month" and at age 79, it is likely that she will win it again in the future.

As a neighbor two doors from her, I've enjoyed listening to her stories about the early years here in Garden Oaks. Like the days when her two boys could go down the street to the new Garden Oaks Theater to see a show and stop in the corner drug store to have refreshments for 25 cents. Newman also recalls the days when she would leave the house and not even worry about locking up! Unfortunately those days are gone, but at least they are alive in Newman's memory.

"Yes, I remember when the park off of Golf Street and Judiway was a golf course and the lot that my house is on now was country!" Newman exclaimed. I had not known until Vivian made this comment that this is where the name Golf Street came from.

Newman first moved to Garden Oaks in 1940. She and her husband, King Newman, bought a house on Lamonte Lane. In 1949 they sold it and moved with her two sons to a bigger house on 41st Street. She has been in her house in Section Five ever since.

As one of the original residents, Newman recalls helping organize the Garden Oaks Civic Club. She talked about how they used to gather at the old fire station off 34th and Shepherd for their meetings. This station was in operation before Garden Oaks was incorporated into the city of Houston. "Yes, there was a time when the Houston city limits did not stretch out as far as Garden Oaks," Newman remarked. After Garden Oaks was incorporated into the city of Houston, they ceased using the facility as a fire station but continued to use the building for the Civic Club meetings for many years.

Newman also remembers the start up of the Garden Oaks Baptist Church. As one of the founding members she recalls it was about 1942 when four families and a pastor started out. "We used to meet right up there at Garden Oaks Elementary School in the beginning," she said. A short time later in about 1943 they bought the land off of Shepherd and built the church, where it stands today.

Aside from all the history that Newman provides as a neighbor, she also contributes to making Garden Oaks a warm and friendly atmosphere. Every now and then Vivian can be seen walking from house to house dropping off some caladium bulbs or some of her home grown creme peas and tomatoes or even some home baked pecan pies. Vivian was the first neighbor to come

over and welcome my husband and I to the neighborhood in 1987, and she's been making us feel welcome ever since.



## GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB

P.O. Box 92155 Hou. Tex. 77206

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### Sheila Briones, Secretary

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### Ed de Alba, Treasurer

858 Lamonte 694-5934

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730 W. 39th 695-0608

FAX: 695-1700

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Linda Landry 869-0456

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# OCTOBER CALENDER

8 Recycle Drop-off 8:00 a.m.

10 *Gazette* Deadline 7:00 p.m.

13 Garden Club Meeting 6:30 p.m.

15 City Drop-off Recycling

20 PIP Meeting 7:00 p.m.

## SUZANNE DEBIEN and Henry S. Miller



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## GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Children/Birthdates: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. lived in G.O. \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. \_\_\_\_\_

Employer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO FURTHER SUPPORT GARDEN OAKS PROGRAMS

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