



Garden Oaks Gazette

Volume 18, No. 9 Circulation 1550 September 1995

GO-COP REPORT

by Bill Chastain

The crimes reported for the month of June are as follows:

Burglaries:

- 4300 block of Alba, 11:00 a.m. on Tues., June 4
- 700 block of W. 34th, 8:00 a.m. on Sat., June 8
- 400 block of W. 30th, 8:30 a.m. on Sun., June 9
- 200 block of W. 32nd, 8:30 a.m. on Sat., June 15
- 200 block of W. 33rd, 9:00 a.m. on Fri., June 28

Burglary of a Motor Vehicle:

- 500 block of W. 32nd, Noon on Sun., June 23

The above information should give you some food for thought. Four out of the six burglaries happened between 8 and 9 a.m.,...the time when many working folks have just left for work. Those of us who are retired or others who spend most of the day at home can serve our community by being alert and by knowing our neighbors so we can recognize unusual activity. By exchanging names, addresses, and phone numbers, and by getting to know those around us better, it is much easier to notify each other in time of need. That's what we did on our block on *National Night Out*. I think we all went away feeling better about our neighborhood and we are now better equipped to watch out for each other.

NNO was wonderful! The participation is getting better each year. HPD is squarely behind this neighborhood activity and they did their best to stop by as many NNO parties as possible. The visitation of all law enforcement was very gratifying and it made me feel that we are having some success in returning to the days when officers and civilians were on the same side and acted like it. Some parties had the honor of a visit from Assistant Chief of Police, J. Gallemore, who dropped by and introduced himself. Garden Oaks did a great job of getting into the NNO spirit.

I want to thank all who participated in NNO. The block parties that I know about were held by **Rick and Darla Englert, Warren and Janice Walden, Deborah Jeans, Rob and Terri Stanchi, Robert Deveau and Ken Santos, J.J. and Dorothy Orlando, and Paul and Kathy Marek.** And

of course, I had better not forget **Jinny Chastain**. If you had a block party and I did not acknowledge, please forgive me. We had some dedicated patrollers out, and they soon found where the food was! It was fun to see people smiling, happy, and getting together for an evening. We in Garden Oaks can feel proud for the success we achieved on NNO. It was much better than last year, and we'll be looking forward to making it better next year.

We are pleased to announce our new patrollers, **Al Jasso, and Dan and Patty Beach** from Section One. "The more the merrier." But in the same breath, we are sorry to lose John and Jennifer Joyce. Their commitments will no longer allow them to participate in GO-COPS. We wish them the best and would welcome them back if they could patrol again in the future.

There were 77 hours patrolled in June.

CIVIC CLUB MEETING

The next Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting will be held at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5**, at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church at 3206 North Shepherd. There are lots of issues affecting our area that need resident attention, including our traffic project, renovation of Graham Park, membership dues, the correctional facility at 513 Thornton, neighborhood projects and community security. Please try to attend this meeting.

ANNOUNCING THE SECOND ANNUAL GARDEN OAKS CAROLING EVENT

by Audrey Vallance

Plans are under way for our 2nd annual G.O. Caroling event which will be held on **Friday, December 8**. Mark your calendar now so that you do not miss this wonderful event. We will once again be benefiting the **Loving Arms Foundation Day Care Center** that services children infected/affected with the HIV-AIDS virus.

Last year Garden Oaks residents showed their generosity and the true spirit of the holidays by donating enough diapers, baby items, and other items needed at the Day Care to fill up 2 vans! Audrey Gassama, Director of Loving Arms, said that there were enough donations of some items to last almost six months!

St. Matthew's Methodist Church has graciously agreed to host the event this year. Keep watching for future announcements in the *Gazette*.

Anyone wishing to volunteer can call either **Jay Slemmer at 956-0465** or **Audrey Vallance at 686-0707**.

YARD OF THE MONTH AWARDED FOR AUGUST

Yard of the month was awarded to **John and Johnnie Newlin**, who live at **803 W. 42nd Street** in Section Two. Go by and take a look at their new fence sometime.

NEIGHBOR NEWS

Well, guess what!...I did get some feedback from my request for information box in last month's *Gazette*.

Lauren Pierce, daughter of **Scott and Jaime Pierce of Section 4**, celebrated her 5th birthday in June of this year and **was accepted into River Oaks Elementary's kindergarten program** which started in August. **Scott and Jaime** celebrated their **10th wedding anniversary in August** and are **expecting their second child in October**. Congratulations to **Scott and Jaime**.

Also, we have some new residents in the neighborhood who moved in around the end of June after interior renovations to their home at 1590 Sue Barnett were completed. Welcome to Garden Oaks **Mitch Weigand and wife Nancy Switzer-Weigand**.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR...

I want to say thanks to all of you who give me feedback regarding the Gazette and input to fill the pages. Since the article giving some Garden Oaks history ran back in the July Gazette, I have received lots of positive feedback thanking me for sharing this bit of yesteryear information with neighbors. I think many of us Garden Oakers take great pride in the history and preservation of our area, making this just another reason why Garden Oaks is such a special place to live. By the way, I just found out who the author of the article giving the history of Garden Oaks was. It was none other than our lifetime resident, **Susan McMillan. Thanks Susan.**

Because of the response I received from running this article, I thought it would be lots of fun to try to run a *Nostalgic Edition* of the Gazette. As a result, I ran down to the Texas Room at the Central Library in downtown and started researching for some information. I found a lengthy magazine article written in 1979, but nothing else. No pictures of the areas development, no pictures or usable information about our old firehouse, or Pine Forest Country Club (which was located off of Shepherd in what is now the warehouse district), no pictures of area churches, etc. There was one picture of a section of Garden Oaks Elementary school, but this was a xerox copy which would not reproduce well. Therefore, I started searching in other places, such as a well known Houston area photography studio that is known for having captured the sites in Houston as they have changed over the years. Going to this studio was a fun experience, but unfortunately their charge for reproducing their photographs in a publication are too pricie for my non-profit budget!

However, I struck gold when I asked **Garden Properties Broker, Judy Camp**, if she could help me. What a blessing! She definitely had the goldmine,...and I barely had to dig to find what I was looking for. **A VERY BIG, HARDY THANKS** goes to **JUDY CAMP** for entrusting me with her materials. She said she is more than happy to do it because she feels very strongly about sharing whatever history she can about Garden Oaks with her neighbors.

As a matter of fact, thanks to **Judy** we had enough pictures and information to run a *Nostalgic Edition* over a couple of months. Unfortunately, we ran out of time and space to run the *Nostalgic Edition* this month. As a result, it is scheduled to run in October and November. But, just to give you a taste of what's in store,...here's a picture of a brochure advertising the then stylish Garden Oaks Motor Hotel. Did anyone notice the phone number? Can anyone guess what exists inits place now?

Thought for the Month

The greatest test of courage on earth is to bear defeat without losing heart.

Robert G. Ingersoll

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COMMUNITY CENTER WITH RESTAURANT AND THEATRE.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

We had a successful *National Night Out* at our house on Tuesday, August 1. Over 25 people from our street met out in our front driveway, several for the first time. Most of the people were from only seven houses away from each side of our house.

During our visit, Sergeant Johnny Moore and Assistant Chief John Gallemore stopped by to offer encouragement. John Gallemore is one of twelve assistant chiefs that works for Police Chief Sam Nuchia. He is responsible for the Office of Criminal Investigation Command, which handles homicide (including family and domestic violence and sexual abuse), auto theft, burglary and theft, juvenile and missing persons, major offenders (including con artists and fugitives), and robbery. Perhaps you've seen John Gallemore at Cavatore's, a local restaurant that he dines at often.

Assistant Chief Gallemore gave us a phone number to keep as a reference in case we ever have problems with the Police Department. He told us that if we ever felt like we weren't getting anywhere with a department then we could call **713/247-5521**. This number reaches his administrative secretary, who will be happy to intercede on ours and your behalf.

To those who attended our *National Night Out* celebration this year, we had a great time getting to know you. To those who missed out, see you next year!

Rob and Terri Stanchi,
1331 Sue Barnett

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT,...A SUCCESS!!!!

The more I get around the neighborhood the more impressed I am with all the activity and effort that so many of us put into making Garden Oaks a better and safer place to live. *National Night Out* was really special and I want to thank everyone who participated for a job well done. Brenda and I visited four of the nine parties we heard about and were sorry we couldn't visit them all. But those get-togethers we did visit were fun, with food and drink and lots of neighbors young and old, some brand new to the neighborhood and others, veterans of more than 50 years. And I met a bunch of people I never see at the Civic Club meetings! We also made the news again for the second month running. Channel 13 interviewed several residents at Rick and Darla Englert's party in Section One. I'm very happy that Channel 13 demonstrates their support of our community by being here at major events.

Other Important Matters:

IHOP: We contacted IHOP to schedule another meeting. They declined because they are no longer considering the properties along 610 as a possible site for their restaurant. Something tells me this issue isn't closed yet.

Graham Park: The city has earmarked almost \$173,000 to re-do our park at 34th and Lawrence. Construction will start in October and finish next June. I expect to have more details and an architect's plan at the next Civic Club meeting. That's a lot of money- let's make sure it's spent wisely.

Heavy Trash: I get too many calls about piles of trash in the neighborhood. Heavy trash pickup is the third Tuesday of every month and the city will collect most anything with the exception of construction waste. Heavy trash may be placed at curbside on the Sunday prior to the third Tuesday. Heavy trash placed on the street outside that time may result in an expensive fine. In the future I will refer all complaints to the city's **Solid Waste Department**. If you see a problem, please contact them directly at **865-4177**.

CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES

Civic Club dues are for each calendar year (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31). We may not be able to mail a notice to you and must rely instead on this notice in the Gazette.

PLEASE PAY 1995 DUES, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, AND TRY TO PAY 1996 DUES BY NEXT JANUARY 1.

Civic Club membership is voluntary, but a very much needed part of Garden Oaks' Civic funding. It is also important for you, our neighbors, to be involved in your community and the Civic Club is our best avenue for doing so.

Please fill out the coupon below and send to **Craig Lee, V.P. of Membership, 212 W. 34th St.**, and resolve to attend at least one Civic Club meeting every six months (first Tuesday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Garden Oaks Baptist Church on Shepherd.)

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB ENROLLMENT & RENEWAL

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Children/Birthdates: _____

Year moved to Garden Oaks: _____ Employer (Optional): _____

ANNUAL FEE: Jan. 1-Dec. 31

Family: \$10 _____ Business: \$25 _____ Senior Citizen (G.O. Roots): \$5 _____

ADDITIONAL FUNDINGS:

Beautification: \$6 _____ GO Elementary Montessori Program*: \$6 _____

Plant Co-op: \$6 _____ GO COP (Citizen's Patrol): \$6 _____

Gazette (Newsletter): \$6 _____ **All of these: \$25 _____**

Garden Oaks Civic Club dues have not changed in nearly 50 years. So we rely on your generous additional support to help finance these community programs.

These are suggested minimum amounts.

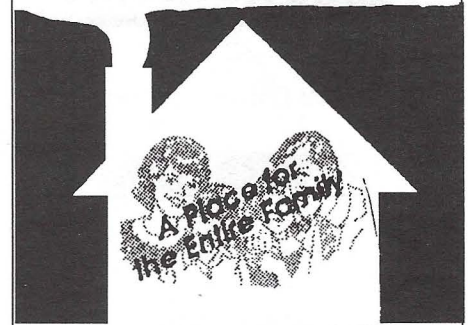
**Gifts to the Montessori program are tax deductible.*

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB

Mail to: Craig Lee, Membership 212 W. 34th St. Houston, TX 77018

or call Craig at 802-0079 if you have any questions.

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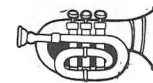
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DEED RESTRICTION INFORMATION

As Editor of the *Garden Oaks Gazette*, I receive many comments and requests from residents. There are always questions regarding **Garden Oaks deed restriction** information. Apparently, not all residents have received a copy of the deed restrictions upon move-in. However, there are definitely deed restrictions and they vary depending upon which section of Garden Oaks you live in. It is these restrictions that have played a very big part in making Garden Oaks a nice place to live all through the years. What I have is information relating to the section that I live in (Section Five) and an old letter (1987) from the then Chairman of the Board of Trustees and now President of the Board of Trustees, James J. Doyle.

In this edition of the *Gazette*, I have decided to include some excerpts highlighting some of the essential information residents should know about the deed restrictions. Keep in mind, however, that I am not an expert on this issue, nor is the Civic Club President. Any specific questions a resident has regarding deed restrictions should be addressed with the Board of Trustees. **Again, the information that I am providing is taken from the restrictions for Section Five and is for informational purposes only. Please do not regard this information as the gospel, applying to each and every section.** Instead, I'd recommend that you use it as a general guideline to what is and is not acceptable in Garden Oaks. For those wanting a copy of the actual deed restrictions in full, pertaining to their particular section of Garden Oaks, **it is my understanding that a copy can be obtained from any member of the Board of Trustees.**

One other side note is the fact that I talked with Board member **Susan McMillian**. She said that the Board would like to be known for being pro-active. She recommended that it would be a *good idea for anyone considering making a change to the exterior of their property to consult with the Board of Trustees before undertaking the planned changes.* Susan added that many times people make very beautiful, tasteful changes to their property without consulting the Board and later have to tear down or modify something not because it is not attractive, but because the legal guidelines of the deed restrictions have been violated. She stressed that the Board does not get involved with the design of proposed changes, just the legality of these changes.

For example, if the Board allows one resident to put in an extravagant, prize-winning rose garden with structures extending out past restricted lines then they would also have to allow other residents to erect other structures that violate guidelines, even if those structures were not considered to be an attraction to the neighborhood, such as a fence post used to hang gardening equipment. Susan pointed out that we have an *Architectural Review Chairman/Expert* that is available for consultation. See the back of the *Gazette* for this information.

Portion of a letter by James Doyle:

One of the reasons that Garden Oaks is a very desirable place to live is that we have deed restrictions in effect and enforced.

Edward L. Crain, the developer of Garden Oaks, established the restrictions and the Board of Trustees was assembled to enforce these restrictions.

The restrictions are quite detailed and include the types and locations of structures permitted on each lot and the building lines to be observed. Of primary importance is the land use restriction that except as noted, no lots shall be used for anything other than residential purposes. This precludes their use for business purposes. Further, the restrictions specify that no improvement or changes in existing structures can be made until plans and specifications have been submitted to and approved by the **Garden Oaks Board of Trustees**. Members of the Board are listed on the back of each edition of the *Gazette*.

USE OF LAND

- Except as herein noted, no lots shall be used for anything other than residential purposes.
- No signs, billboards, posters, or advertising devices of any character shall be erected on this property without the written consent of the Company, and such consent shall be revocable at any time. The right is reserved by the company to construct and maintain such signs, billboards, or advertising devices, as is customary in connection with the general sale of property in this subdivision.
- No swine shall be kept on said premises.
- No spirituous, vinous, or malt or medicated bitters capable of producing intoxication shall ever be sold, or offered for sale, on said premises, or any part thereof, nor shall said premises or any part thereof be used for illegal or immoral purposes.

ARCHITECTURAL RESTRICTIONS

- No improvements of any character shall be erected, or the erection thereof begun, or

changes made in the exterior design thereof after original construction, on any lot or homesite in Garden Oaks, Section Five until plans and specification have been submitted to and approved in writing by Garden Oaks Company. Such approval is to include exterior design, the type of material to be used and the colors to be applied on the exterior of the structure, and such approval by the Company is to be based on the following general requirements, stipulations and restrictions, together with any other requirements, stipulations and restrictions, that the Company may deem advisable to include in the deed conveying said property:

- All lots in the tract shall be bounded and described as residential lots, and no structure shall be erected on any residential building plot other than one detached single-family dwelling not to exceed two stories in height and one or two car garage.
- No structure shall be moved onto any lot.
- No trailer, basement, tent, shack, garage, barn or other outbuilding erected in the tract shall at any time be used as a residence, nor shall any residence of a temporary character be permitted.
- No trailer, trailer house, or movable structure of any kind or type or temporary building shall be erected or maintained on any lot and then such trailer house or temporary building must be on the lot on which construction is in progress and not on adjoining lots, streets or easements, and at completion of construction, the temporary building must be removed immediately.
- No garage apartment for rental purposes permitted. All living quarters on property other than in main building to be for bonafide servants only.
- All improvements shall be constructed on the lot so as to front the street upon which such lot faces.
- Where corner lots are of equal or nearly equal dimensions on two streets, or they are irregular shaped lots, the Company reserves the right to designate the direction in which such improvements shall face, and such decision shall be made with the thought in mind of the best general appearance to that immediate section.
- Dwellings on corner lots shall have a presentable frontage on all streets on which the particular corner lot fronts.
- No residence shall be constructed on any lot or building site in the subdivision of less actual value than Twenty-seven Hundred Fifty (\$2,750.00) Dollars. These restrictions

as to the value of improvements are based upon labor and material costs as of March 31, 1942, and all future value of improvements is to be given consideration based upon comparative costs of labor and material at the time of construction, using the basic value hereinabove given.

- No fence, wall hedge, nor any pergola or other detached structure for ornamental purposes shall be erected, grown or maintained on any part of any lot forward of the front building line of said lot.
- No radio aerial wires shall be maintained on any portion of any lot forward of the front building line of said lot.
- No outbuilding shall exceed in height the dwelling to which they are appurtenant, without the written consent of the Company. Every outbuilding except a greenhouse shall correspond in style and architecture to the dwelling to which it is appurtenant.
- The right is reserved by the Company to change these restrictions in the case of unusual or irregular shaped lots, or lots unusual in size, where same is required for the advantage and best appearance of the immediate community.
- No building of frame construction on the exterior of any kind or character shall be erected on any lot unless same at the time of construction shall receive at least two coats of paint, and no such building shall have a wood shingle roof unless same is painted or stained an attractive color.
- No building material of any kind or character shall be placed or stored upon the property until the owner is ready to commence improvements, and then such material shall not be placed in the street or between the pavement and property line.
- No stump, trees, underbrush or any refuse of any kind nor scrap material from the improvements being erected on any lot shall be placed on any adjoining lots, streets or easements. All such material, if not disposed of immediately, must remain on the property on which construction work is in progress, and at the completion of such improvements, such material must be immediately removed from the property.

**PATROLLERS FOR THE
MONTH OF AUGUST
GO-COPS**

Our **Patrollers of the Month** for the month of **August** are **Dennis and Doris Koebelen**. Once again, we thank you. Your faithful efforts are greatly appreciated!

St. Matthew's

United Methodist Church
SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:15 & 10:30 am
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 am

Preschool – Mon -Fri 9-2
Mother's Day Out – Wed -Fri 9-2
ages 3 mos. - 5 yrs.
Parent's Nite Out – Fri 6:30-11:30

Senior Adult Exercise
Mon, Tues, Thur – 4:15-5:00

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SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 5	Civic Club Meeting	7 p.m.
September 9	Recycle Drop-Off	8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
September 10	Gazette Deadline	
September 14	Garden Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.
September 19	Heavy Trash Pick-up	
September 21	Positive Interaction Prog.	7 p.m.

Celebrate 55 Years of Education

BUY A BRICK, BUILD A PATH

To celebrate 55 years of education at Garden Oaks Elementary School the School PTA and Friends of Montessori are building a path of history for Garden Oaks Elementary School. We are selling brick pavers on which you can have a special message, of 33 characters or less (a space counts as a character), engraved in one, two or three lines. The pavers will be used to create an attractive walkway on the school grounds. Everyone is invited to join us in this lasting memory and add a step along the path at our neighborhood school. The funds that are raised will be used to support the existing and new Montessori classrooms at Garden Oaks, and the PTA. The pavers



are on sale for a minimum donation of \$50.00. However, they are currently available at the special price of \$40.00 per paver or two pavers for \$75.00. **For further information please call Joan Harmon at 695-8318 or Karen Benson at 697-2566.** A portion of your donation will be tax deductible because Friends of Montessori is a non-profit organization.

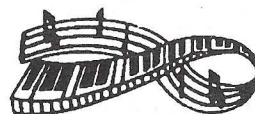
ORDER NOW

Please make your checks payable to Friends of Montessori and return them and the order form to:
Garden Oaks Elementary School, Attn: Montessori, 901 Sue Barnett, Houston, TX 77018

Name _____
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 Phone _____
 Number of pavers _____
 Engraved message(s) _____

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