



October 2021

Volume 43 Issue 10

# Garden Oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

## 100 Oaks for Garden Oaks

Maybe more than 100, maybe not all oaks, maybe in parks, ROW or your yard?

*Pam Parks, Beautification Chair*

**The concept:** Plant 100 oaks (100 oaks is a placeholder for a large number of trees) in Garden Oaks. The plantings would be in CoH parks and ROWs and be done in partnership with Trees for Houston. The proposal will include maps showing proposed planting locations and will specify approved species.

The concept of planting trees in public green spaces is being matched with a Tree Give-Away Event hosted by GOCC and SPPCC for owners wishing to plant trees on their properties. The cumulative planting of free trees by property owners and the planting of larger trees on public greenspaces will very likely far exceed the goal of 100 trees.

### Why More Trees?

- Trees mitigate flooding.
- Trees mitigate air pollution.
- Trees mitigate noise pollution.
- Trees harbor/support wildlife.
- Trees mitigate urban heat island effects.
- Trees and nature support human well-being.

Any wonder that trees improve property value?

### We Need to Plant Trees to Have Trees

- Mowing and weeding of our landscapes undoes the fine work of squirrels, birds and other natural propagation.
- Use of herbicides harms trees – the “root reach” of trees is well beyond the drip-line. There is not guaranteed safe zone for most herbicides in our yards.
- Construction damages tree roots.
- Excessive or shallow watering interferes with healthy root development.

A typical property with a dozen trees may have no trees after 60 years of conventional maintenance. It makes sense to be "planting ahead" for the inevitable demise of almost all of our tree species.

### Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting

No October Meeting

### Event

National Neighbors Night Out  
October 5th @ 6 pm - Your Block

### Event

November Meeting: Nov 2 @ 7:00 pm

November- The Wakefield Shuffle  
November 6th - 3 to 5:30 pm

(continued on page 3)

## Garden Oaks Civic Club Business Members

Welcome to the following neighbors and neighborhood businesses who joined our new Business Membership Program. Thanks for your support!

**Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan**

**Verde Wealth Group**

**Erin Thole, CNHP – Thole Wellness, LLC**

**Harry James Building + Design**

**John Bartos, Attorney at Law**

**Delarco Designs & Construction, LLC**

**Plonk! Beer & Wine Bistro**

**IndyQuest Properties, LLC**

**Central City Air**

**The Law Offices of Hilda Sibrian**

**The Rice Organization, Inc.**

**Southern Sprinkler & Drainage**

**Terry Jeanes, Realtor – Led Well Realty**

**Frost Bank – 4606 N. Shepherd Dr.**

**Common Bond – 3210 N. Shepherd Dr.**

**Mosquito Authority**

## Article Submission Guidelines

1. MS Word or text document as an attachment (not the body of the email), left justified, no headers or footers. Keep formatting to a minimum.

2. Photos need to be sent separately. You may embed photos to show where they go with the article but separate full size and resolution photos must also be provided outside of the document.

3. Articles should be titled. These can be as simple as the name of the committee or the event, but a concise title should be provided for all other articles.

## Civic Club Officers

President – Tonya Knauth 713 396 0876  
986 Gardenia president@gardenoaks.org  
Vice President – Kevin David 713 686 5903  
826 Azalea vicepresident@gardenoaks.org  
Treasurer – Paul Vincent 713 834 7248  
742 West 41st treasurer@gardenoaks.org  
Secretary – Beth Jackson 870 816 0774  
851 West 43rd secretary@gardenoaks.org

## Committee Chairs

Beautification – Pam Parks 713 686 7728  
beautification@gardenoaks.org

Citizen Patrol – Mark Saranie 713 724 1271  
235 West 33rd gocop@gardenoaks.org  
Constable Program – Terry Jeanes  
281 236 8033 922 West 41st  
constable@gardenoaks.org

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Publication of any article or letter does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

(100 Oaks continued)

To get the conversations started I have tossed out some numbers to our Park Captains and anyone who wants to contribute to building the maps.

- 13 trees for GO Blvd -replace two fallen trees and add several more!
- 4 trees at Friendship Garden (Lawrence & W30)- replacements for Redbud and add Oak.
- 6 trees at the Rose Garden (Lawrence & W34)- Mexican buckeye for rain garden plus 2 replacement oaks.
- 6 trees for the Randall Berm (Randall & W30)-replace trees lost to traffic accidents.
- 5 trees for Durham Wedge (Randall & W30) -replace sickly crepe myrtles, replace fallen tree and add a few others.
- 5 trees for the Art Park (Sue Barnett & W 43)-replace the half dozen fallen and removed in last few years and add a couple more.
- 7 trees for the Spark Park and GOMM Campus.
- 12 trees for American Legion Park - fill in gaps in the tree line along south side (RR track) of Park for noise mitigation.
- 12 trees for Graham Park - fill in 2 rows of trees paralleling RR tracks for noise mitigation. Special need is for wet tolerant species.
- ? for Community Garden – fruit/nut trees under consideration would fall outside of Trees for Houston program.

**Costs**

Trees for Houston will provide trees and plant them for the areas I am proposing. Our obligation will be watering them all for two years. The majority of trees listed above are covered by our 6 working irrigation systems. Cost estimates and tree counts are being estimated with a plan to seek GOCC funding and donations from individuals.

Double the Fun - bring an adjoining neighborhood along —To take this to the next level, we are proposing to match our efforts in Garden Oaks with a similar effort in Independence Heights.



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# AIA Home Tour Showcases Garden Oaks Home

**2-day self-guided tour, October 23-24, 2021**

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Houston will hold its [2021 Annual Home Tour](#) featuring eight area homes selected by a jury of industry experts to represent the finest in new residential architecture. The two-day, self-guided tour is open to the public and offers attendees a rare opportunity to walk through and view an impressive assortment of privately owned residences designed by accomplished Houston architects.

TICKETS (Valid for both days) can be purchased in advance thru 10/19 at [aiahoustonhometour.org](http://aiahoustonhometour.org) or on the day of the tour at any of the 8 featured homes. Masks will be required.

## **Featured on the Tour is 3007 Lawrence Street, Garden Oaks Section 1. 4300 square feet**

This home is situated in Garden Oaks (across from Friendship Garden). The 80' x 240' lot is unusually deep—twice the depth of an average residential lot. The two-story massing is stepped back from the front of the house to align with other two-story homes on the block-face.

Acoustics played a major role in the building's form. The U-shaped plan is designed to block noise within the pool courtyard from the heavily trafficked street one block to the west and the freeway two blocks to the south. The courtyard is on the north side of the house, providing views of the neighbor's stately oak trees, and uses the two-story bedroom wing to shade the infinity-edged pool.

The glass exterior canopy, the large pivot door and expansive view greet visitors upon arrival, all within a defined entry area. The entry trellis, dining room ceiling, interior brick core, and screened porch were developed as "moments of richness," characterizing the way they enhance the home's design within an overall modest construction budget.

Reducing negative environmental impact, the home achieves sustainability by minimizing west fenestration, maximizing north windows, sealed construction, and high-efficiency air conditioning equipment.

The home tour is a nonprofit fundraiser and supports various AIA Houston initiatives throughout the year.



*Photos courtesy of Benjamin Hill Photography*



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## Pocket Park Workdays

### *Pam Parks, Beautification Chair*

Cooler weather is here, and it is time to prepare our flowerbeds at the pocket parks for the winter. Time to pull weeds, plant posies and mulch! By the time this newsletter is published, workdays will have been completed at the Rose Garden and Gazebo Park\*. Our volunteers schedule these events with just a few weeks' notice so watch for the red and white Workday signs to appear in your favorite park.

\*Gazebo Park workday was postponed. New date to be announced.



## Citizen Patrol

*Mark Saranie, Program Chair*

**Details, be large or small, can be important.**

Case in point, in early July when we had a lot of rain, the back part of our back yard was holding a lot of water. I had gone out during a pause in the rain to move the recycling and trash bins out for pick up. While negotiating the ponding water I noticed bubbles coming up to the surface. At first, I thought they were just bubbles produced by the water dripping from the tree overhead. I decided to stop for a closer look and saw that bubbles were indeed coming up from the ground in several spots along a straight line. I scooped up some of the water with the bubbles and sure enough, gas! It was fixed that very morning and all is well, except for the mud pit that was left by a small backhoe. Potential huge issue averted!

The point here is that no matter how small a detail may seem, it can be a crucial one. Ever seen something going on at a neighbor's home that did not feel quite right, but shrugged it off? Did it bug you all day? On a few occasions while patrolling, I have called in a few sightings that appeared suspicious. They weren't in the end but they might have been. The constable would reach out with an update after investigating. Better safe than sorry.

We need volunteers. For a limited time and because of budgetary constraints, I am offering a \$25 sign on bonus, payable as a gift card of your choice once you complete certification and take an initial tour with me to learn the ropes. If interested, please email me at [gocop@gardenoaks.org](mailto:gocop@gardenoaks.org). I will need your legal name and an email address you monitor. This will be forwarded to the officer who conducts the training. They in turn will reach out to you with forms to fill out and later communicate a certification date. To qualify, you must reside in Garden Oaks, be at least 18 years old, and pass a background check.

***Happy Halloween everyone!***

### ***Crime stats for July***

3<sup>rd</sup>—12am-700 blk W 41<sup>st</sup>-vandalism  
 14<sup>th</sup>—10am-1000 blk W 43<sup>rd</sup>-Theft  
 21<sup>st</sup>—12pm-800 blk W 42<sup>nd</sup>-Theft from vehicle  
 22<sup>nd</sup>—2am-500 blk W 33<sup>rd</sup>-Disorderly conduct  
 25<sup>th</sup>—11pm-3200 blk Ashland-Theft from vehicle  
 31<sup>st</sup>—3pm-300 blk W 31<sup>st</sup>-Theft from vehicle

### ***Crime stats for August***

2<sup>nd</sup>—12am-1000 blk W 41<sup>st</sup>-Assault  
 6<sup>th</sup>—10pm-200 blk W 32<sup>nd</sup>-Assault  
 8<sup>th</sup>—11pm-800 blk W 30<sup>th</sup>-Theft from vehicle  
 23<sup>rd</sup>—11am-4300 blk Alba-Theft from vehicle

# Constable Program

*Terry Jeanes, Program Chair*

## **Have you supported the Constable Program in 2021 yet?**

We need you! You can pay online at [gardenoaks.org](http://gardenoaks.org) or via the form in this newsletter. Payment of at least \$250 per household will get you a GO Constable Supporter sign. That's a mere 65 cents per day!

We currently have 346 Constable Supporters at the \$250 level and above, and we are targeting 400. If you need a new sign or a 2021 sticker, email [constable@gardenoaks.org](mailto:constable@gardenoaks.org). A roster of current supporters is available at [gardenoaks.org](http://gardenoaks.org).

Reminder: The Constable Program is paid only by residents' contributions. There is no mandatory fee collected.

## **Pay your dues today. Why wait until you become a crime victim before contributing?**

**Become a Constable Program Supporter: [gardenoaks.org](http://gardenoaks.org)**

**Constable Dispatch: 713-755-7628**

**Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/crime-alerts/>**

**Vacation Watch: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>**



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## Constable Statistics August 2021

Data are provided monthly for the contract with the Harris County Precinct One Constable deputy who patrols Garden Oaks. The number of responses is shown for each category.

Accident - 1

Alarm Call – 1

Check /Park/School/Neighborhood - 9

Civil Process – 1

Contract Check – 169

Disturbance/Loud Noise – 4

DWI - 1

Information Call – 3

Medical Emergency - 1

Meet the Citizen – 6

Meet the Officer – 1

Property Found/Lost - 1

Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 7

Theft Other – 2

Traffic Hazard – 2

Traffic Initiative - 1

Traffic Stop – 5

Vacation Watch – 143

Welfare Check – 3





**2021 COMBINED CIVIC CLUB AND CONSTABLE DUES STATEMENT  
(January – December)**

**Civic Club membership is open to all residents. While membership is voluntary, you must be a paid member to be eligible to vote on civic club matters. Constable Dues are also voluntary and help pay for our Precinct One Constable Deputy on patrol.**

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**Civic Club:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Basic Membership \$40** (\$20 for seniors 65+)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Community Household Membership \$100**

**Constable Program:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Annual Constable Supporter (\$250, w/yard signage)**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Additional Constable Program contribution**

**Other:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Contribution to Beautification** (maintain area green spaces)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Contribution to Garden Club** (maintain Friendship Park, Section 1)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL**

Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to:  
**Garden Oaks Civic Club, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206**

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**Pay online at [gardenoaks.org](http://gardenoaks.org) and get e-mail confirmation of payment.**

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*THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD!*

## Sip, Sip, Phooey- The Wine Walk is Postponed until 2022

*Dian Austin, Committee Chair*

The Wine Walk Committee had hoped to host the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual (almost) Wine Walk in November, but after much thoughtful consideration, we have decided to wait until next fall.

The Covid landscape has not shown enough promise currently to give us warm, fuzzy feelings about holding a safe neighborhood gathering in another month. Since the Wine Walk is a tasting and sipping event, it would be most difficult to mask properly and maintain social distancing. Hopefully our concerns will lessen in future months, and we can all get back to "normal" lives.

Thanks to all the table hosts who graciously once again had agreed to supply wines and foods at their own expense for our Constable Program fundraiser.

We aim to be back in full working order in November 2022.



## RATES ARE AT ALL-TIME LOWS

### Purchase and Refinance Season is Here!

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# Recycling Reminder

Recycling right is just as important as recycling more.

Contamination harms the program by making it hard to recover clean recyclables at the sorting center.

Most importantly, **DO NOT BAG YOUR RECYCLABLES!** Bagged recyclables are the number one contaminant and cause of tangling the recycling equipment. Keep your recyclables loose and free. Do NOT put recycling in trash bags or garbage bags into your green recycling bin!

*And.....shredded paper doesn't belong in the recycling bin either; it clogs the machines. Put shredded paper into the black garbage bin, not recycling.*



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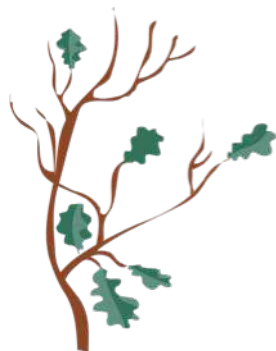


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# Heard Under the Oak Tree

*Terry Jeanes*



## Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We look forward to seeing you at a civic club meeting soon.

4203 Apollo  
 979 Gardenia  
 927 Lamonte  
 1411 Sue Barnett  
 1530 Sue Barnett  
 308 W. 30th  
 816 West 32nd  
 536 W. 33rd  
 511 West 34th

## Happy Birthday

Dian Austin – 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Sue Schmidt – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Julian S – 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Tina Sabuco – 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Michael Padon – 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Alice Sarmiento-24<sup>th</sup>  
 Benjamin B. - 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Pene Carter – 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Linda Reichle -25<sup>th</sup>  
 Mark Saranie -25<sup>th</sup>  
 Fritz Westover -25<sup>th</sup>  
 Jack Runge- 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Eden Craig-30<sup>th</sup>

## Happy Anniversary

Tony & Debbie Padon – 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Elizabeth & Mark Klein – 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Betsy & Gig Runge – 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Sally & Jim McDaniel – 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Jayne & Mike Maltbie – 28<sup>th</sup>

## Out and About

**Tony and Debbie Padon** recently visited southern California.

Labor Day was time for fun. The **Dillys & Theriots** were at Canyon Lake. while the **Zindler-Feit** household enjoyed the Outer Banks.

**Terry Jeanes**, along with her mom, cruised to Costa Maya and Cozumel.

## Congratulations:

to **Tina Sabuco** on celebrating the 27th anniversary of Arts Alive!

to **Zoe Byrd** who placed 1st in Juvenile freeskate at the Skate Houston figure skating competition. She will go on to represent the Skating Club of Houston in Dallas and Boston this fall in the 2022 US Figure Skating National Qualifying Series.

*To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13<sup>th</sup> of the month to Terry Jeanes at [terry@terryjeanes.com](mailto:terry@terryjeanes.com).*

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# Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting Minutes

*Beth Jackson, Secretary*

August 3, 2021 via Zoom online application

President Tonya Knauth called the September meeting to order at 7:04 pm and welcomed attendees. There will be no general business meeting in October in lieu of National Night Out. We are hopeful that the November meeting will be held in person.

The August meeting minutes were printed in the Garden Oaks Gazette. Mike Stephens moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Sheila Briones, and the motion passed without opposition.

Heather Houston with Scenic Houston gave a synopsis of the CoH's proposal to install 50 new digital LED billboards on city property around Houston. These new billboards will likely be located in areas seeing growth and investment. The City will require that three static billboards be removed for every new digital billboard erected. However, the new digital billboards will not necessarily be located where the existing ones are removed, but rather in new locations around Houston. Scenic Houston is asking civic clubs and neighborhoods to join them in opposing these new digital billboards by contacting the Mayor and City Council members. Supporters of Scenic Houston's efforts can also sign an e-letter to City Council at <https://scenichouston.org>.

## Treasurer's Report

Paul Vincent reported that we are spending our funds down, which is not concerning since we have a current surplus. Finances are available for neighbors to review by contacting [treasurer@gardenoaks.org](mailto:treasurer@gardenoaks.org).

## Committee Reports

Constable Program: Terry Jeanes said the citywide National Night Out on the first Tuesday of October (Oct 5) is on for now, but interest has been low due to the recent pandemic surge. For neighbors interested in hosting an event, please email [constable@gardenoaks.org](mailto:constable@gardenoaks.org) so she can add your address to the master list that goes to HPD.

Contact [constable@gardenoaks.org](mailto:constable@gardenoaks.org) if you are interested in volunteering. Call **Constable Dispatch @ 713.755.7628 with any issues.**

(continued on page 17)



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(minutes continued)

**Beautification:** Pam Parks noted that the Rose Garden project is almost complete with the purchase of two picnic tables which should be installed by the middle of September. A workday is planned for September 25th.

Gazebo Park also has a workday planned for September 18th.

A Trees for Houston tree-giveaway co-hosted by GOCC and SPP Civic Club is scheduled for Saturday, November 13 at 9:00 am at the Community Garden on Alba. There will be 100 trees to giveaway to neighbors to plant and maintain in their yards.

Pam made a motion that we begin maintaining the METRO bus stop on Durham near the Randall berm and the landscaped island at Apollo and West 43rd at a cost of \$360 for the remainder of the year; this would be added to our existing landscaping budget. Paul Vincent seconded the motion, and it carried via vote of the attendees.

GardenOaks.org: Annual hosting fees are paid, and the website is current and operating well.

**GO Citizens Patrol:** If anyone would like to participate, please contact Mark Saranie.

**Membership:** Tonya gave Dian Austin's report in her absence, stating there are 287 paid members of the GOCC now. Members and business members are posted on the website.

Dian is also working on the Wine Walk, and reported that the Covid landscape has not changed as hoped, and as such, the committee does not have confidence that the situation will be any better in November when the Wine Walk is scheduled, so the event is postponed until Fall 2022.

**GO Gazette:** Welcome to Christi Hartley, our new *Gazette* editor. Thanks to former editor Joe Muscara who is helping with transition. Christi is new to GO and looks forward to serving. Deadline for submissions for the October issue is September 15<sup>th</sup>, [gazette@gardenoaks.org](mailto:gazette@gardenoaks.org).

**Social Media:** John Alvar posted on Instagram about the upcoming Garden Oaks/Shepherd Park drainage project and the online GO Gazette digital version. We've seen an increase of 30% in Instagram followers in the past month. John also created a new Facebook general account for the GO neighborhood which will be easier to monitor and transfer among moderators in the future. Reach out to John at [social@gardenoaks.org](mailto:social@gardenoaks.org) with concerns or ideas.

**Government Affairs/CIP:** Tonya shared that construction began on the Phase II Golf drainage project at Wakefield today. Problems related to the construction project should be directed to Tonya Knauth, [president@gardenoaks.org](mailto:president@gardenoaks.org) and she will contact the city directly. Please use this avenue for concerns, complaints, and compliments versus calling 311. The project is beginning on Golf between Judiway and Wakefield. Each block should take 4-6 weeks to complete. All schematics and public information are online at [www.gardenoaks.org](http://www.gardenoaks.org). The City has been very responsive to questions and concerns, including a request to not preemptively trim or cut trees along the route until they determine when and where to cut.

We still have no response to the GOCC sidewalk variance request for the Phase 3 Sue Barnett drainage project which will not begin for several more years. The City of Houston will hold a Sidewalk Summit which Tonya plans to attend and report back to GOCC. Our general waiver request to exempt all new construction and rehabilitation from the new sidewalk requirements has not been addressed yet either.

(continued on page 18)



(minutes continued)

A mini mural design for the signal box at Garden Oaks Blvd. and N. Shepherd has been chosen. We may do more mini murals around the perimeter of the neighborhood. Anyone interested in working on mini murals, please reach out to Tonya, [president@gardenoaks.org](mailto:president@gardenoaks.org).

### **Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet School**

Stephanie Acosta joined the meeting representing GOMM. School is now in session which means there is a lot of traffic around the school. GOMM is utilizing both the Wakefield parking lot and the front circular drive for drop off and pick up. Please remember that both streets are two-way traffic, so please don't try to go around stopped cars. Attendance is robust for the 2021-2022 school year so far.

Application for the 2022-2023 magnet schools opens on September 10 and runs until November 11, 2021. The Pre-Kindergarten application window opens September 10 and closes March 10, 2022. Please complete the application if your children plan to attend GOMM so the school will know how many seats to reserve for zoned students. Email Stephanie at [sdubroff@hisd.edu](mailto:sdubroff@hisd.edu) with any questions.

### **Community forum for future GOCC meetings and projects:**

Tonya then moved the meeting into an open session to solicit ideas and suggestions for future GOCC meetings and projects.

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(minutes continued)

Pam Parks suggested "100 Oaks for Garden Oaks" - a program to plant new trees in green spaces and public ROWs and city parks in our neighborhood, including Graham Park, Art Park, American Legion Park, plus the GOMM school campus. Pam is developing inventory and drawing up plans. This would be a joint project between the CoH, Trees for Houston, and the GOCC. We would agree to nurture and maintain the trees for at least two years under this proposal. The project would also support additional trees for our neighbors in Independence Heights. Early estimates for total project costs to GOCC is between \$20,000-25,000.

With no other suggestions for new projects from the floor, Tonya noted that we have a significant funds in the GOCC accounts. Please be thinking about priorities and projects you would like to see. We also welcome ideas for new events, programs and projects.

Tonya has been interested in adding a community impact opportunity to our annual calendar such as one or more community service projects. Please reach out to her if interested, [president@gardenoaks.org](mailto:president@gardenoaks.org).

Tonya concluded with a reminder of upcoming events: National Night Out, October 5th, on your block, and the GOCC November meeting, Tuesday, November 2nd at 7:00 pm.

The September GOCC meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.



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# Information for Families Zoned to Garden Oaks Montessori and HISD Magnet Application Information for 2022-2023 School Year

*Stephanie Dubroff-Acosta, Parent  
Engagement Representative, GOMM*

## Choosing Schools

1. Start by visiting the Office of School Choice website at [www.houstonisd.org/magnet](http://www.houstonisd.org/magnet) for information regarding the campus levels you are interested in. You will find a list of magnet options, which schools have those programs and a map of where the schools are located.

2. HISD will host Virtual School Choice Fairs on Microsoft Teams. Links will be available at [www.houstonisd.org/magnet](http://www.houstonisd.org/magnet). School Choice Fairs are on the following Saturdays at 9am - 12 noon:

- September 18
- October 2
- October 16
- October 30
- Additional School Choice Fairs will be held on February 12 & 26 for campuses with Space Available as well as PK programs

All HISD magnet schools are represented at each fair. This is a great way to explore schools when deciding which would be a good fit for your child and determining which you would like to tour.

3. ALL HISD magnet schools will have Virtual tours on Microsoft Teams each Thursday, September 23 - November 6. Links to the Thursday tours will be on individual campus websites as well as the Office of School Choice website, [www.houstonisd.org/magnet](http://www.houstonisd.org/magnet).

- Elementary and K-8 school virtual tours are at 9:00 a.m.
- Middle & High School virtual tours are at 1:00p.m.
- See links at bottom of page for Virtual Tour and/or the Q & A session for Garden Oaks Montessori

4. Apply! Applications are available online September 17,2021 at <https://hisdchoice.com>.

## Kindergarten-12 Grade APPLICATION PHASES:

- **Phase 1 (September 17, 2021 – November 11, 2021)**

All qualified applications submitted during Phase I will be entered either in a lottery or will be eligible for auditions at secondary fine arts programs. Rankings as well as deleting/adding schools, can be changed until November 10, 2021. **Notification of Lottery Status is January 27, 2022.**

- **Phase 2 (November 12, 2021 – March 10, 2022)**

All qualified in-district applicants will be considered on a space-available and will be placed on the offered list after Phase II closes. These applications are not considered in the lottery. The applications will be re-ordered by time/date stamp and added to the end of the Phase 1 waitlist if space is available. If you apply in Phase 1, you do not need to reapply for Phase 2.

- **Phase 3 (March 11, 2022 - Onward)**

All qualified applicants that are currently NOT in HISD or out of district will be considered on a space-available and first-come-first-served basis. If you apply in Phase 1 or 2, you do not need to reapply for Phase 3.

## PreKindergarten - all PK seats are by lottery ONLY.

- Applications for PK are open September 17, 2021 – March 10, 2022 - In-district, TEA Eligible applications and tuition-based applications received will be entered into the lottery. Applications received after this date will be offered only by space available and in order of submission
- Rankings can be changed, schools deleted or added, until March 10, 2022

- **Notification day for all PK applications is March 31, 2022.**

- Tuition-based applications will be considered after April 15, 2022, and after all "eligible" applications have been offered seats, and if space is available.



**Finding your zoned Campus**

You can find which campus your residence is zoned to at [www.houstonisd.org/findaschool](http://www.houstonisd.org/findaschool)

**Zoned Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> grade families**

If you are considering Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet (GOMM) for your K-5th grade child, please submit the online application at <https://hisdchoice.com>.

Completing the application reserves your seat. Zoned applications will not be considered in our campus lottery. Once the notifications for the lottery are sent, you will receive an email from our campus with important steps to complete registration. Zoned families must confirm they are living within the school zone by providing 3 of the following proofs of address: current utility bill (water, gas or electric), HCAD statement stating "Homestead Exemption" or current lease. Due to limited space, any applications after February 10, 2022, may be put on a grade level waitlist in order of submission.

**Students who are 5 years old on or by September 1 are eligible for Kindergarten.**

**Non-Zoned families**

Please apply at <https://hisdchoice.com>

**\*\*Grades 3-8 must have Montessori experience to be considered in our lottery.**

**ALL PK Families:**

PK families must complete the online application. (Please choose "Magnet/Vanguard", not "PK enrollment" for our program.)

There is **no zone for PK in HISD**. You must apply to any PK program in the district prior to the deadline to be included in the lottery.

**Students who are 3 or 4 by September 1, 2022, are eligible for PK.**

For more information, please refer to [www.houstonisd.org/magnet](http://www.houstonisd.org/magnet)

**Garden Oaks Montessori Virtual Tour Information:**

The Virtual Tour followed by a Question & Answer session on

Microsoft Teams will be each Thursday September 23 through November 4, 9:00-10:00am.

There are additional Q & A sessions at 9:00-10:00am on the following dates:

December 9

January 27

February 24

March 24

**To join Garden Oaks Montessori's Virtual Tour and Q & A session, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y52qp6rd>**

**To view the Garden Oaks Montessori Virtual Tour without the Q & A session, please view this video, click here: <https://youtu.be/IUPnBEgGfRQ>**

**Stay connected at:**

<https://houstonisd.org/gardenoaks>  
[facebook.com/GardenOaksMontessori](https://facebook.com/GardenOaksMontessori)

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## GOCC and Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club to Host a Trees For Houston Tree Give Away

Where: 4412 Alba Rd. - Community Garden

When: Saturday November 13 at 9:00 AM (rain date Nov. 20)

Trees to be given away are Shumard Oak, Swamp Chestnut Oak, Loblolly Pine and Wax Myrtle.

We cannot plant the trees for you, but Trees for Houston will give out stickers with individual species information. Each sticker has a QR code that links to planting information and more detailed species information.

Representatives of GOCC, SPPCC, and the Community Garden will be at the event to meet residents and provide information about their respective groups.

## This year - Instead of the Wine Walk, do the Wakefield Shuffle!

*Tonya Knauth, GOCC President*

We said maybe to the Wine Walk, and unfortunately given current COVID numbers in Harris County, we are going to wait another year to come together for the Wine Walk.

Instead, SAME DATE, SAME TIME - Saturday, November 6, 3 - 5:30 (ish) - THE WAKEFIELD SHUFFLE!

Join your neighbors and visit participating bars/restaurants on Wakefield. Support community businesses and benefit the Constable program!

## How To Beat the Final Days of Heat and Humidity – Part One

*Mitch Weigand*

While dealing now with the highest temperatures and humidity of the year, your A/C system is being put to its most rigorous test right when it's needed the most. This is also when problems can occur which may turn into major expenses next year. Correcting them now can be much more cost-effective. Here's what to look for:

### Restricted air flow

Free air flow is absolutely essential for your A/C system. In Houston, air conditioners run all summer long and can develop fan motor issues and clogged filters. These inhibit air flow and decrease your system's overall efficiency.

Misaligned fans tend to strike against their casings, causing quite a racket. Whether the result of accumulated debris or improper installation, a misaligned fan will only worsen while the system runs. Be alert to any rattling sounds.

When clogged air filters are the problem, your A/C system works harder to compensate for the blockage, putting

tremendous strain on it during the hottest part of the year. Replace these filters every month. Clogged filters can affect your home's indoor air quality plus shorten the life of your system.

### Low Freon

Freon leaks increase your energy usage, and also prevent your A/C from doing its job properly. Signs of a freon leak include a much lower cooling output and frost accumulation on the A/C's evaporator coils.

Additionally, when your system is low on freon, it seems to run nonstop and take forever to cool your house down. That's because there isn't enough freon available to absorb the heat effectively, and the air blowing out of your home's vents is warmer than normal. Call your A/C service technician to perform a diagnostic check to locate any leaks and restore the system's freon to its proper level.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise <sup>TM</sup>.

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# OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
3	4	5 National Night Out 	6	7	8	9 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
10	11	12	13	14	15 Gazette article deadline	16 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
31  Halloween						

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