



December 2021

Volume 43 Issue 12

Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

December GOCC Holiday Gathering and More – Join us!

Tonya Knauth, Civic Club President

Please join us for the December Civic Club Meeting and Holiday Gathering on Tuesday, December 7th at 7 pm at Great Heights Brewing, 938 Wakefield.

The Civic Club will furnish a catered dinner with desserts, and each guest will get at least one beverage ticket.

Also, if you could bring an unwrapped toy for the Constables' Toy Drive, that would greatly support their annual effort to make the holidays a bit more special for those in need.

Before our Social Time, we will have a short business meeting where we will be voting on the 2022 budget and the new officers for 2022. The nominated slate of officers for 2022 are the same as those serving currently. In addition, nominations can be made from the floor. All paid 2021 Civic Club members who are at the meeting will be eligible to vote.

Our new Peace, Love, and Garden Oaks T-shirts will be available for purchase.

You can also pay your 2022 Civic Club dues and your Constable Program supporter fees at the meeting as well.

Parking will be available between Decant Winery and Great Heights Brewing.

Please come out and join us! And speaking of joining – we need, and would love to have, your input and ideas. Join the Civic Club and support the Constable Program. Now that we are back meeting in person, come to a meeting! Meet your neighbors, contribute what you can, and participate in supporting this community. I hope to see you soon.

Garden Oaks Civic Club

Monthly Meeting and Holiday Gathering:

December 7th- 7:00 PM
Great Heights Brewing
939 Wakefield

Events:

Santa at Gazebo Park
December 8th and 9th
6:00 to 7:30 PM

Farm Stand-
949 Wakefield
Every Saturday
9:00 to 1:00



2022
Proposed
Budget



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

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

Membership – Dian Austin 713 691 6505
733 West 42nd
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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.

SAVE THE DATE!! Santa & Mrs. Claus at Gazebo Park



Wednesday December 8th 6:00-7:30pm
and

Thursday December 9th. 6:00-7:30 pm

There will be hot seasonal beverages and sweet goodies for all to enjoy. It is a great photo opportunity for all, including your fur babies. Please bring your own camera or cellphone, and be ready to catch that special moment while you visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the elves.

Stay tuned to neighborhood Facebook pages for more information. Look forward to seeing you. The Elves are Terry Jeanes, Georgia Lister, Sally and

Jim McDaniel.

For added information contact: Terry Jeanes (terry@terryjeanes.com) or Georgia Lister (gvlistner@yahoo.com).

Gazebo Park is at the intersection of Lamonte/42nd/Sue Barnett streets.



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City of Houston Enacts New Heritage District Ordinance

Recently, the City of Houston created a new vehicle for neighbors and neighborhoods to protect the unique and culturally significant characteristics which make Garden Oaks and other neighborhoods desirable locations. A “Heritage District” for Garden Oaks could be a way to preserve our neighborhood’s large lots, tree-lined streets, and the distinct, intentional, and effective drainage mechanisms that define the area.

The heritage district designation is intended to foster civic and cultural pride by protecting character-defining elements within neighborhoods, highlighting the significant achievements and contributions of the community and promoting neighborhood stability. The ordinance defines a heritage district as a section of the city that is distinguished by a unique community identity and history. A heritage district is a recognizable, definable, geographic area that has ongoing cultural traditions and history that residents generally recognize.

The Heritage District Ordinance will allow non-profit organizations to recognize the unique qualities of Houston’s historic and culturally significant neighborhoods. Organizations that are approved for a heritage district will be permitted to protect, restore or install significant elements within the district such as brick paved streets, curbs, driveways, sidewalks and walkways, signage and markers, public art, vegetation, and trees in the city’s public right-of-way. The designation does not provide city funding and does not apply to private property. For example, an established non-profit organization can raise funds to restore historic elements, put up banners, install special street signs, or landscape an esplanade.” From City of Houston, <https://www.houstontx.gov/planning/HistoricPres/heritagedistrict.html>.

Across the United States, historic districts, conservation districts, and the newly adopted “heritage district” here in Houston have become a tool to protect, and in many cases increase property values and investments in residential and light commercial neighborhoods.

There will be future discussions about whether GOCC will advocate for a Heritage District designation at January and February GOCC meetings. Please come and share your opinion.

Letter to the Editor

We live in Section 1 of Garden Oaks, and I have a suggestion for a safety reminder that I think should be included routinely, particularly now that we have adjusted our clocks back and the days are darker earlier and most of us have no sidewalks.

I am very concerned about pedestrian safety and walking on the proper side of the road.

Daily when I walk my neighborhood or when I drive, I encounter multiple people who are walking on the incorrect side of the road. This is especially concerning when they are walking with small children or with children in a stroller. There appears to be almost no awareness that where there is no sidewalk, pedestrians should walk on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic. This is for the safety of both pedestrians and drivers to ensure that both

parties have line of sight.

I've included several links regarding pedestrian awareness:

<https://www.txdot.gov/driver/safety/pedestrians.html>

<https://ftp.txdot.gov/pub/txdot/ptn/pedestrians/walk-safe-info-card.pdf>

Pay attention to how many pedestrians are walking on the incorrect side of the road in our neighborhood, and how many of them are doing so with small children who are learning this incorrect behavior. The consequence could be so disastrous if an accident were to occur. We could all do a small part by adopting proper pedestrian awareness and reminding others as well.

Kind regards,

Justine Burgett
Section 1 resident

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Wakefield Shuffle – a Successful Saturday for the Constable Program

Tonya Knauth, Civic Club President

We could not have asked for a more beautiful Saturday afternoon to shuffle down Wakefield! Despite the construction, many neighbors came out and supported local businesses, contributing to the Constable fund and getting some good benefits in exchange. It was great to see everyone.

Peace, Love and Garden Oaks t-shirts debuted, and we will continue to sell them at the regular GOCC meetings. It's the new cool tee for Garden Oaks – be an early adopter before we run out!

Thanks to William Price Distillery, Great Heights Brewing, Wakefield Crowbar, Decant Urban Winery, and Walking Stick Brewery for partnering with us to raise funds for our Constable Program. A huge thanks also to Emily and Mike Stephens who chaired the event. We raised about \$2000 for the Constable program in 2.5 hours with minimal volunteers. And it was a lot of fun!

With the inaugural event a success, we will continue the Shuffle going forward, and hope it grows significantly, especially once the Wakefield construction is done.



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2022 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.

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

-OR-

Pay online at gardenoaks.org and get e-mail confirmation of payment.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD!

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

Thank you to everyone who supported the 1st Wakefield Shuffle in November with proceeds that flowed into the Constable Program funds.

Please note Precinct One Constable Alan Rosen and Deputies will be hosting their **Precinct One Annual Toy Drive Car Wash on Wednesday December 1st** starting at 7am thru dark at Dr Gleem Car Wash, 3103 Ella. Residents may drive by and drop off spare change in the buckets with Deputies standing along the street. There will be Bar B Q and free car washes for donations. The Precinct is working with 22 schools within Precinct One providing for the neediest children.

Have you supported the Constable Program yet?

We ended 2021 with 345 Constable Supporters at the \$250 and up level. We need to raise the participation in order to keep our Constable Program viable.

We need you! You can pay online at 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!

If you need a new sign, please email constable@gardenoaks.org. A roster of current supporters is available at 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

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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2022 Support for Civic Club and the Constable Program

Dian Austin and Terry Jeanes, Program Chairs

In the next several weeks, each Garden Oaks resident will receive the annual mailing of the dues form for both the 2022 Garden Oaks Civic Club (GOCC) and the 2022 Constable Patrol Program. Residents are urged to support both the Civic Club and the Constable Program for 2022 with monetary contributions and mail the form back soon. You can also pay online at gardenoaks.org.

Civic club funds are used to provide upkeep for all our greenspaces in the neighborhood, hold neighborhood events, print the Gazette newsletter, support area schools, and maintain the gardenoaks.org website.

Constable funds are used to pay for our Harris County Precinct One Deputy who patrols the neighborhood 40 hours a week. Each contract costs about \$87,000 annually, and funds come

only from residents. We are down to one constable because that's all the funding we have received.

Support for the Constable Program can be made monthly or annually. We ask for a minimum of \$250 in order to receive a GO Constable Supporter sign. The combined GOCC and Constable form is in each month's Gazette.

For 2021, we ended the year with 345 Constable Program supporters at the \$250 and up level, and 289 paid members of the Civic Club. That's out of 1400+ homes, so we could do a lot better! Please support your neighborhood.

New residents can see an online Welcome Packet at gardenoaks.org (New N'bors tab) or email membership@gardenoaks.org to have a hard copy packet delivered to your home.

We hope to see everyone at the December 7th GOCC Holiday Gathering!

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Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting Minutes

Beth Jackson, Secretary

November 2, 2021 in-person at Wakefield Crowbar

President Tonya Knauth called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm, welcoming everyone to our first in-person meeting since the pandemic. The meeting was also streamed for virtual attendees.

There was no October meeting in lieu of NNO, so there were no minutes to review and approve.

Tonya introduced the evening's guest speaker, GO resident Robert Andrews. Robert is a licensed mental health professional and the founder of the Institute of Sports Performance in Houston. He has worked with Olympic athletes, colleges, military members and their families, front line medical staff, and others teaching them to manage stress and compete at a high level.

Robert spoke about the mental and emotional issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic over the past 18 months. As he does with athletes and peak-performers, he offered guidance on managing stress and anxiety and shared advice for neighbors during this unprecedented time.

Treasurer's Report

Paul Vincent shared copies of the monthly financials, then discussed the proposed 2022 budget. We currently have surpluses because of the hard work and stewardship of those who came before us. As such, the 2022 proposed budget includes additional projects such as hiring a marketing consultant to work on branding and outreach to and support for our neighborhood schools. Both meet our goals to increase outreach and connection with more neighbors. The proposed 2022 budget will be considered and approved at the December GOCC meeting.

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Monday - Friday

7:00 am - 6:00 pm

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Saturday

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Committee Reports

Constable Program: Deputy Nowling addressed concerns and answered questions about safety in the neighborhood. Brenda de Alba asked about illegal street racing in Harris County. Sheriff Gonzales has allocated funds for a street racing task-force to deal with the problem.

Deputy Nowling said the biggest current issue is theft of supplies and equipment from contractors and landscaping crews. Please encourage crews working on your property to lock their vehicles when they aren't near them.

The Deputy has access to the speed islands which are mobile displays that check motorists' speed by radar. A radar checker on 43rd was requested, as was a checker on Alba to follow.

Contact constable@gardenoaks.org if you are interested in volunteering. **Call Constable Dispatch @ 713.755.7628** with any issues.

Beautification: Pam Parks was not present.

GardenOaks.org: Pam Parks was not present.

GO Citizens Patrol: Mark Saranie needs volunteers for Citizens Patrol. Reach out to Mark for an application. Citizens Patrol is a great way to know the neighborhood and your neighbors.

Membership: Dian Austin said we ended 2021 with 229 GOCC members. Any dues received from now through the end of the year will count towards the 2022 membership program.

GO Gazette: Christi Hartley, new editor, reminded all that submissions are due by November 15th to gazette@gardenoaks.org.

Social Media: John Alvar was not present.

Government Affairs/CIP: Tonya Knauth reported that the street and drainage construction project on Golf is proceeding and the crew is keeping her updated regularly. For concerns, email president@gardenoaks.org and Tonya will communicate with the crew chief.

Regarding the street/drainage project slated for Sue Barnett, the City's new sidewalk ordinance requires the installation of sidewalks for any residential remodels or new construction. No blanket waivers will be granted by the City, and the status of GOCC's application to amend the proposed plan from two sidewalks to one along Sue Barnett near GOMM is still pending. CM Abbie Kaman has said she will fight for our exemption application with the City.

Paul Vincent asked if a designated historic district would address the desire to protect the swales and ditches network in GO that universal sidewalks would threaten. Beth Jackson shared that the CoH now has a second option, a designated "heritage district," which might be a better vehicle for preserving the character of Garden Oaks.

On redistricting, Tonya noted that our state representatives in Garden Oaks have changed, and encouraged neighbors to know who represents you. We are still waiting for confirmation of County Commissioner districts that could affect our neighborhood.

(continued page 12)

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(from page 11)

GOMM: No representative present.

New Business:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Mike Stephens chaired the Nominating Committee for the 2022 slate of officers; other members included Tony Padon, Carrie Arnett, Bill Shaughnessy and Phil Ramirez.

All current GOCC officers have agreed to serve another term: and therefore comprise the 2022 slate: President Tonya Knauth, Vice President Kevin David, Treasurer Paul Vincent, and Secretary Beth Jackson. The slate will be voted on at the December meeting.

WAKEFIELD SHUFFLE – The fundraiser for the Constable Program is slated for November 6th. William Price Distillery, Decant Winery, Wakefield Crowbar, Great Heights Brewing and Walking Stick Brewery will offer specials and a fun afternoon out in the neighborhood. Come out and support these local businesses during a difficult time (pandemic and construction), meet your neighbors, and raise funds for a great cause. Thanks to Mike and Emily Stephens for leading this effort!

Details for the for the December GOCC meeting/ Holiday Gathering will be available soon via our social media channels, so check Facebook or Instagram for more information.

Constable Statistics October 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.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Alarm Call – 2 | Traffic Hazard - 5 |
| Burglary Other - 1 | Traffic Stop - 22 |
| Check /Park/School - 21 | Vacation Watch - 46 |
| Civil Process – 5 | Vehicle Speediing - 1 |
| Contract Check – 212 | Welfare Check - 2 |
| Discharge Firearms - 1 | |
| Disturbance/Loud Noise – 7 | |
| Follow Up - 1 | |
| Meet the Citizen – 72 | |
| Solicitors – 2 | |
| Special Assignment - 9 | |
| Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 7 | |
| Theft Other – 1 | |

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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.

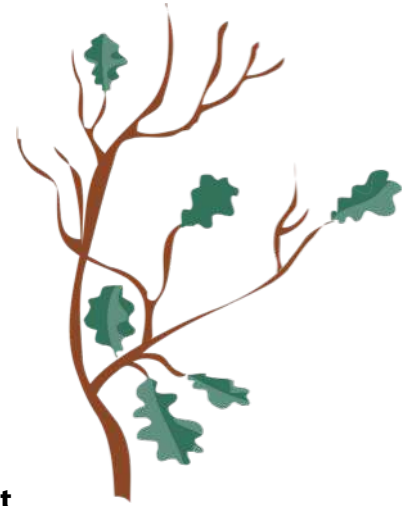
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 1058 Gardenia
 3201 Lawrence
 1531 Sue Barnett
 202 West 32nd
 327 West 33rd
 874 West 41st
 962 West 41st
 1067 West 42nd
 1079 West 43rd

Happy Birthday

Joel E - 1st
 Joshua M. - 2nd
 Jane Ann Roberts - 2nd
 Pierce E. - 4th
 Ella C. - 9th
 Jason Espeseth - 9th
 Jayne Maltbie - 10th
 Terry Jeanes - 11th
 Ian McDaniel - 12th
 Julia McDaniel - 12th
 Chris Lindsay - 13th
 Sabrina - 15th
 Jim McDaniel - 15th
 Carmen Elizabeth C. - 17th
 Sandy Altman - 24th
 Katie C. - 30th

Happy Anniversary

John and Margie Hesse - 29th
 Troy and Jordan Allan - 31st



Out and About

Betsy Stein enjoyed a trip to Santa Fe and Taos. **Shawn and Bill Spear** took a kayak out personally made by Bill. It was their maiden voyage at Kickerillo Mischer Preserve. Well done Bill! **Angie Lane and her daughter** enjoyed Camp Cho Yeh and some precious mom/daughter time.

Julie Sherber headed to Vegas where her first Signature Luxury Travel Week did not disappoint. **Caroline Stender, Linda Sparks, and Marlene Caldwell** had a great time judging the pet costume competition benefiting Cypress Lucky Mutt Rescue.

Congratulations to Ryan G. on his 1st pitching outing, and it was 3 up and 3 down with 3 strikeouts. Also to **Matthew Mischlich** on his decision to play D1 Water Polo at Iona College. Shout out to Azalea neighbor **Richard Orozco** who was recognized for his Beef Tallow Ice Cream - Piper's BBQ Heights in Texas Monthly's Famous Bar B Que list. Great Job to each of you.

Special Thoughts for Pam Parks and Teresa Coleman in the loss of Pam's mother.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13th of the month to Terry Jeanes at terry@terryjeanes.com.

HISD Runoff Information

Jenny Moreno, GO resident

A run-off election for the HISD Trustee District 1, which serves Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet, has been scheduled for **Saturday, December 11, 2021**. We wanted to share some responses to questions that a few parents in the neighborhood put together for the candidates. The responses below are listed in the order they were received.

Please vote!

1) How familiar are you with the Montessori educational philosophy?

GARZA LINDNER: I know Montessori is a method of teaching that emphasizes hands-on, self-directed learning, and instructors trained in this method are critical to success. I'm more familiar with this method in preschool settings and am interested in learning more about schools that extend this method to elementary school and beyond. I have a few friends whose children attend or have attended School of the Woods and I'm excited to support this as an offering to our public school children

SANTOS: I do not have any direct experience teaching in a Montessori environment; however, learning about Maria Montessori and her work was a part of my training to become an educator. I am familiar with the Montessori pedagogy. It is a constructivist framework wherein the student leads the learning process, with the teacher/adult as a guide. As a high school English teacher, every day I worked hard to ensure my students were driving what took place in the classroom.

2) Our schools have issues regarding equity of education between and even within schools. How do you think we can best address these inequities?

GARZA LINDNER: Equity issues are better understood by those who are most impacted by them. There are many ways to address these issues including increasing school leadership's awareness so their decision-making may be better informed. The many groups who advocate to increase awareness, including your own, are critical to ensuring leadership and governance bodies make well-informed decisions. Another is to increase the diversity of our leadership to better represent our community and bring multiple perspectives to our decision-making bodies. My work with Latinos for Education was rooted in addressing this by encouraging the participation of Latinos on boards of nonprofit education organizations so that we may bring our unique

perspectives to these governing bodies. Actions we can take as a board include increasing the per unit allocation (PUA) which will help direct more funding straight to schools, and using incentives to encourage our best teachers to work with our most struggling students. Ensuring public Montessori programs have opportunities for targeted teacher development and the freedom, with standards, to teach in ways that are true to their methods are also important. Continued understanding of the root causes of inequity in education will accelerate progress if we combine that with advocacy and representative leadership that holds this goal as core to their work.

SANTOS: There are two things we can do (and I have publicly and regularly advocated for both during my time in office): first, eliminate the "poverty penalty" by changing our basic funding model from attendance-based to enrollment-based; second, increase the "weights" for at-risk students, English learners, and students with special needs in our school funding formula.

3) At GOMM, we are very proud of being able to offer a high-quality Montessori education in a public school setting. If you are elected, how would you support us and our neighborhood in striving to maintain and improve as a public Montessori school?

GARZA LINDNER: I commend your efforts to offer high-quality Montessori education in our public schools. As a trustee I would encourage support of GOMM's vision through additional funding directed to schools, district-level support of differentiated instruction that aims to serve all our children in the best ways possible, and a focus on making those resources available in more of our neighborhoods. I aim to accomplish this through transparent, responsible fiscal management with a focus on reducing centralized spending and increasing teacher pay to competitive levels so we can attract the best talent from across our region; with our superintendent, moving our district towards processes that reduce the amount of administrative overhead while ensuring the quality of our teachers, administration, and staff are clearly defined and measurable. With this we can move toward systematic success across all our schools that is

intentional and planned and make our district a place at which teacher talent wants to work.

SANTOS: Supporting GOMM starts with reemphasizing neighborhood schools. The Montessori program at GOMM is truly special. It is a model of the great things that can be achieved in public schools when evidence-based pedagogy is combined with broad community support. We should strive to support and develop that model as we bring it to campuses across the district that have not had the same experience. GOMM will not reach its full potential as a public school until the special opportunities it affords become the norm for all neighborhood schools in our city.

4) Many of us have felt removed from our elected officials and don't fully grasp the scope of the position. If elected, what will you do to reach out to schools and families in your district to get to know us better? How can we best contact you to have our voices heard?

GARZA LINDNER: I am committed to regularly engaging with my constituents to both hear from them and share what the board is considering. There are many options to reach our community and with a plan that aims to reach our families through existing channels such as PTA/Os. I know we cover lots of ground but it's not enough. We have many schools in our district that lack this structure, and other ways of meeting with families are necessary.

Leveraging civic and non-profit organizations that are active in our communities is another way to reach families that I intend to seek out. Establishing relationships with our elected officials can help to create another communication channel for issues that span HISD and other local government entities such as traffic and safety concerns. Finally, making myself available by phone, email, and in-person meetings scheduled at various times of the day throughout the month may give families another way to reach us as trustees to increase the chance of making connections. Social media is another avenue to work into the overall communication plan that I aim to share with our elected trustees, publish, and continuously evolve to make sure we are learning from what works and what doesn't to constantly improve how we stay connected to our families.

SANTOS: I will continue to visit schools in my district as much as I can, hold community meetings, and make myself available to my constituents in whatever way I can. You can always email me, post on my social media, or call/text my cell phone. 713-553-5525. I have been a member of the District 1 community for my entire life—as a student, a volunteer, a teacher, a trustee, and (most recently) as a mother to a future District 1 student. And as always, I'll look forward to the next GOMM pancake breakfast!

(continued page 16)

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(from pg 15)

5) Why are you running for school board and why do you think you are the right person to represent District 1?

GARZA LINDNER: I am running for the school board because I have observed the dysfunction and lack of significant progress over recent years. As a parent and corporate professional I know there is much we can accomplish with people on the board who have a singular focus on decision-making that benefits our students first. Our district can benefit from people on the board who understand the importance of strategic planning, systematic change, and the need to address the root causes of key issues rather than continuing to treat the symptoms. Our board needs to earn back the community trust that has been lost over the past years of fighting and bad behavior, show we can function effectively as a team of 10, and enable our superintendent to make the transformational changes he envisions while keeping the vision, values, needs, and concerns of our community central to our collective decision-making. We have allowed too many students to

pass through HISD who don't receive the support and resources they need, and we need urgent action from people whose experience and capabilities will enable them to be effective immediately. I have all those characteristics plus a drive that those who work with me know is unflappable, especially in the face of challenge.

SANTOS: I have been serving my community—the same one my parents immigrated into—my entire life. HISD public schools provided me with an education and a ten-year teaching career. Four years ago, the people of District 1 elected me to represent them on the school board. I have remained committed to serving the people first, which is why I have a strict policy against accepting contributions from HISD vendors. We need a trustee who understands our community, its schools, and the promise of its future.

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GOMM and HISD Magnet Application Information 2022-2023 School Year

Stephanie Dubroff-Acosta, School Transfer Analyst, HISD

Choosing Schools

View the Office of School Choice website <https://www.houstonisd.org/schoolchoice> 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.

Applications are available online at <https://hisdchoice.com>.

Kindergarten-12 Grade APPLICATION PHASES:

- **Phase 2 (November 19, 2021 – March 10, 2022)**

All qualified in-district applicants will be considered on a space-available basis and will be placed on the offered list after Phase 2 closes. These applications are not considered in the lottery.

- **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 13, 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 in order of submission, only if space is available.
- 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

Zoned Kinder-5th 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 waitlisted.

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



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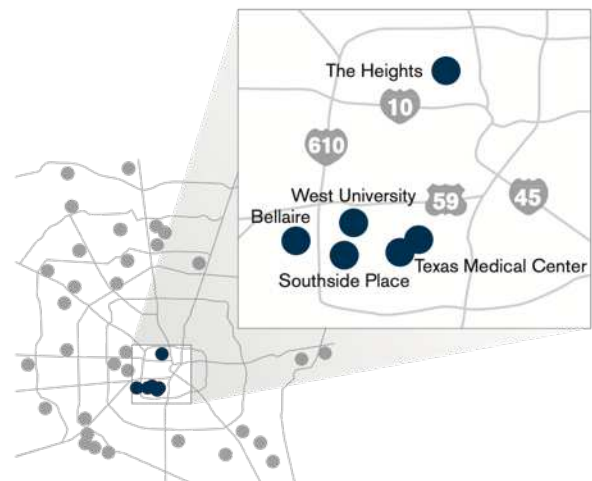
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Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

I seem to remember rejoicing at the beginning of this year in my January posting twelve months ago. The world was full of promise. The election season was over. We had a vaccine. The economy was starting back up and we seemed to have little to worry about. I couldn't have been more wrong. The vaccine requires boosters. A once in a lifetime polar vortex brought the entire region to a halt. We're having trouble getting folks back to work, and there is a flotilla of container ships off the coast waiting to unload.

You know what's not in short supply? Locally produced goods.. Farmer Cathy has plenty of sustainably grown veggies and free-range eggs. Marianna and Carlos of 109 Coffee have a continued supply of small batch beans. Sophia of Granola Garden has continued to bring her custom blend of whole grains and tasty baked goods.

We will also be rotating in a few choice artisans. Steve Willis will be there with his handmade cutting boards, beautiful pens, and other unique wood items. Kit and company will return just

before the Holiday with hand thrown pottery and maybe another vendor with locally made items as well. So your Christmas gift giving need not be as challenging as the media makes it out to be. Shop local and let not your heart be troubled. Not to mention you'll never have to worry about giving the same gift as another family member or friend.

Now back to my original rant, if you want to call it that. Just when I thought things were going to return to normal, the work on Wakefield began and it's been no picnic, as though you need to be told. The good news is that when the work is completed, we will be one of only four city blocks in the entire country that offers the density and diversity in a walkable format with new sidewalks and good drainage. As the saying goes "This too shall pass."

As always "Come soon, come often and don't forsake us because of a little dust and drama."



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Flowers in the Art Park

Shawn and Bill Spear, Park Captains

Wildflowers will soon be blooming again in the Art Park. In November we had our second annual wildflower planting with several neighborhood children helping to plant the seeds. Each child got a small tin pail of seeds to scatter and afterwards they stomped the seeds into the ground to make sure they get off to a good start. The event was organized by Shawn and Bill Spear. Last year the wildflowers began blooming in April. Keep an eye on the Art Park to see the transition from empty field to seedlings and then



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Tree Give-Away

Tina Nieto and Caroline Stender, GO residents

A gorgeous crisp mid-November Saturday morning provided the perfect day to host our free tree give-away in conjunction with Trees for Houston at our Community Garden located on Alba Road. Garden Oaks Civic Club and Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club teamed up to help our community stay green by giving away assorted trees: Shumard Red Oak, Swamp Chestnut Oak, Wax Myrtle, Loblolly Pine, and Sweetgum trees.

With the helpful traffic assistance from our Constable, our neighbors from Oak Forest, Garden Oaks Plaza, and North Shepherd as well as Garden Oaks and Shepherd Park Plaza came out to chat with one another and explore the Community Garden. Generous donations were made to the Community Garden to help support growing organic vegetables given to the St. Rose of Lima Food Pantry.

We received a total of 100 trees and gave away 51. If you would like to adopt a tree or two, we still have all varieties available except the Wax Myrtle. Email either Caroline Stender (cstender@sbcglobal.net) or Tina Nieto (t-nieto@att.net).

Many thanks to the Beautification Chair Pam Parks for doing all the legwork in organizing this event. Also, much appreciation to the Community Garden volunteers and SPP volunteers who gave up their Saturday morning to lend a hand in this tree adoption effort and sharing their lovely garden.



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Air Filters: Everything You Need to Know

by Mitch Weigand

There's a lot about indoor air quality that you might not be aware of and certainly can't see. Up to 72 trillion microscopic irritants/allergens find their way into your home every day. They include dust, pollen, pet hair and dander, dust mites, mildew, lint, fungus, tobacco smoke, cooking grease and bacteria. Many of these particles are so small that your nose and throat can't filter them out, and they can get deep into your lungs.

Run-of-the-mill, cheap air filters which cost around a buck do little or nothing to capture these irritants. They only collect the big stuff like pet hair and enormous dust particles.

The expensive \$17.00 HEPA filters can do great things for your home's air quality by trapping most allergens,

but they also can starve your A/C system of free-flowing air, making it work way too hard and possibly shorten its life.

Another solution is the stand-alone, ionic-type room air cleaner. Unfortunately, they are effective only within a certain radius. Additionally, at a cost of \$300 to \$500 apiece, buying one for each room can be cost prohibitive.

Let's go with a happy medium. The best A/C filter costs about \$3.00 each and are readily available at most home improvement stores. While they're pleated like the \$17.00 ones, these filters aren't "over-pleated" and thus allow air to readily go through them.

(continued on page 23)

**Happy Holidays
to everyone!**



Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand

Here's what our customers are saying about us:

“Mitch is the man!”

Jerry D., The Woodlands

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ “Soon after I moved to The Woodlands, one of the A/C units went out. I called Mitch because I wanted someone I could trust. He showed me where the coils were leaking and recommended a whole new unit because of its age.

“Mitch did not pressure me to replace the second unit. After he left, I decided to do that. I expected to have a semi-hot house until Monday but Mitch got his crew there on Saturday. They installed both systems in my HOT attic in one day. I couldn't be happier.”



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(continued from page 22)

The filter I recommend most often is the dust lock integration or DLI filter made locally by H&B Filters. It allows air to flow freely through (absolutely essential to a properly functioning A/C system) plus it traps up to 90% of airborne contaminants including dust, pollen, spores, pet hair and dander.

DLI filters are about one-inch thick and custom cut to fit your A/C system. They are held in place with a wire grid which your technician can install. The filters are a very reasonable \$5.00 apiece and come in a box of 12. You can replace them yourself.

Finally, no matter what filters you use, be your A/C system's best friend and replace your filters regularly. Once per month is an ideal schedule.

Happy Holidays to all my customers, friends and neighbors in Garden Oaks!

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise™



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5	6 Hanukkah Ends	7 GOCC Meeting Great Heights Brewing 7:00 pm	8 Santa's Visit Gazebo Park 6:00 to 7:30	9	10	11 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
12	13	14	15 Gazette article deadline	16	17	18 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
19	20 School Holiday begins-Return Jan. 3rd	21	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas 
26 Kwanza 	27	28	29	30	31	

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