



February 2022

Volume 44 Issue 02

Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

President's Message

Tonya Knauth, Civic Club President

Let's talk sidewalks again. In Fall 2020, City Council passed a Walkable Places ordinance, with new regulations for sidewalks city-wide. In order to obtain a building permit for many types of projects, including a new home, an applicant must submit a sidewalk plan that conforms to City sidewalk specifications. Modifications or exceptions are only granted for limited reasons, after a formal modification application is filed along with the nonrefundable fee of \$1,144.00. While walkability is generally a positive direction for any neighborhood, Garden Oaks residents will have challenges complying with the ordinance. I wrote about this in the February 2021 Gazette, and will recap here. <https://www.gardenoaks.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021-02-Gazette-color-web.pdf>

I don't think anyone, including me, is against sidewalks generally; we are certainly a group of neighbors who like to walk and hope to do so safely. The issue is that Garden Oaks streets were designed and built without sidewalks, and compliance with the ordinance means that sidewalks will have to be privately built in front of one lot at a time, with no overall plan for all the streets in the neighborhood. In 2021 GOCC appealed to our City Council Member Abbie Kamin's office for a universal solution to this issue; Kamin's office recently **responded that there will be no universal waivers.** And so, we must discuss next steps as a neighborhood.

Residents and builders who have sought building permits for remodels and new homes have been advised to submit their sidewalk plan, and that an exception will not be granted simply because there are no sidewalks in front of other houses in the neighborhood. In the past, GOMO and/or GOCC has written an informal letter that the City planning department accepted and granted an exception; that will no longer apply. The following is an excerpt from my letter to Kamin's office, explaining why Garden Oaks needs a universal waiver:

Open Ditch Drainage System. The drainage system has proven effective through many storms to this day. The current multi-million dollar City Garden Oaks North-South drainage projects were designed and built to work with the existing ditch and swale drainage system of our East-West streets.

Not only are there no existing sidewalks in Garden Oaks, but with our current streets they will not work from an engineering perspective. The easements between the street and the ditches vary in width, and most slope downward at an angle that will not support a sidewalk between the street and the ditch. For drainage reasons, the grading cannot be

Garden Oaks Civic Club

February Meeting: Virtual

Tuesday, February 1st
7:00 pm

Meeting ID 853 8370 1841
Passcode: 505892

Topic: Heritage District
Speaker: Roman McAllen,
Houston Office of
Preservation

and
Discussion on the Impact to
GO of the Sidewalk
Ordinance

(Continued page 3)

2022 Garden Oaks Civic Club Business Members

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

If you/your business is interested in joining our annual program, please email membership@gardenoaks.org.

Terry Jeanes, Realtor – Led Well Realty

Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan

Mosquito Authority

IndyQuest Properties, LLC

John R. Bartos, Attorney at Law

The Rice Organization, Inc.

Southern Sprinkler & Drainage

Erin Thole, CNHP – Thole Wellness, LLC

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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
membership@gardenoaks.org
Social Media – John Alvar 713 775 0365
social@gardenoaks.org
Webmaster – Pam Parks 713 686 7728
webmaster@gardenoaks.org

Gazette Contacts

Editor – Christi Hartley 806 319 0853
gazette@gardenoaks.org
Advertising Director – Brenda de Alba
744 West 43rd 713 705 0886
gazetteads@gardenoaks.org
Delivery Coordinator – Angela Winston
526 West 34th 832 656 8648
gazettedelivery@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.

President’s message (continued from page 1)

changed and the ditches cannot be covered, especially not in one-lot increments along a street. Apparently this issue was considered and recognized in the Office of City Engineer in the “Practice for Sidewalk Requirements” document dated March 17, 2014.

Safety. There is a real safety issue that would be created by elevation changes and patches of “sidewalks to nowhere” along our residential streets. Families walk and run in the easements, currently all the same elevation and covered with grass or gravel - it would be clearly unsafe to have periodic sidewalks along the way.

Aesthetics and Property Value. Although drainage and safety are most important, I cannot leave out that Garden Oaks is a historic neighborhood with a special aesthetic that includes large front lawns with ditches and swales. Tall old-growth trees give shade to homes with beautiful landscaping many property owners lovingly tend. In addition, many residents have planted new trees in the easement between the ditch and the street; trees given to them through City grants that encouraged tree planting in the easements. Periodic, interrupted sidewalks would negatively affect the beauty of our neighborhood and property values.

I have asked Council Member Kamin’s office to set up an onsite meeting in Garden Oaks with representatives from the City Planning and Permitting Department; it is tentatively scheduled for the last week of January. My hope is that once onsite in our neighborhood, they will understand the challenges that builders and homeowners will face if forced to comply with the ordinance, and the overall challenges for our neighborhood of sidewalks one lot at a time. I will, of course, report back on any progress made at that meeting.

One option GOCC has begun to explore is designation as a Heritage District. We wrote about the Heritage District option in the December 2021 Gazette, page 4. <https://www.gardenoaks.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2021-12-Gazette-color-web.pdf>

At our February 1, 2022 Civic Club meeting, we will hear from Roman McAllen, Houston Office of Preservation (HOP) Officer. He will explain the designation of Heritage District and answer questions.

Come to the meeting with your constructive ideas and opinions. We cannot and will not have an open forum on whether Garden Oaks generally needs sidewalks. We will talk about the issue at hand – the impact of the sidewalk ordinance, whether we as a neighborhood want the Civic Club to continue to advocate for waivers, and the appropriate way to do that. I look forward to a productive discussion.

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Greenspaces in Garden Oaks City Parks, Spark Park, Pocket Parks and a Community Garden

Pam Parks, Beautification Chair

What are all these spaces and whose job is it to take care of them?

This is the question posed by one of our property owners in response to the GOCC 2022 Survey. I recognized the owner and knew they have been with us several years and had been active in community activities. If a longtime resident asked this question, it seemed there might be a broader audience for the information. The simple answer is.... Well, it just isn't simple.

Garden Oaks is unusual in at least three ways where our greenspaces are involved.

- We have a lot of greenspaces.
- No neighborhood group or organization owns any of them.
- Volunteers and donors play key roles in maintenance of parts of them.

Ownership is spread across at least three City Departments, HISD and the State.

- State of Texas - "The Durham Wedge" (N. Loop & Durham), .3 acre. Maintenance of this parcel is done by City of Houston (CoH) Public Works when they remember the arrangement.
- City of Houston (Parks Department) is responsible for:
 - Graham Park (W. 34th & Lawrence) .5 acre
 - Art Park (Sue Barnett & W. 43rd) .8 acre
 - American Legion Park (Golf & Judiway, adjacent to GO, not in GO per se), 5+ acres
- HISD maintains the Spark Park at Garden Oaks Montessori (Sue Barnett & W. 41st), 2.7 acres
- City of Houston (Parks Department) - The following spaces, defined as "esplanades" by the City, were adopted by GOCC in the 90s and early 2000s. Adoption involved GOCC installing irrigation systems, landscaping.

and agreeing to maintain the areas in return for the City providing free water. Electrical service, available only at Gazebo Park, is paid by GOCC. We refer to these 5 as "pocket parks".

- Rose Garden (Lawrence & W. 34th)
- Friendship Garden (Lawrence & W. 30)
- Garden Oaks Blvd. Esplanade
- Gazebo Park (Sue Barnett & Lamonte/W. 42nd)
- Triangle Park (Alba & Azalea)

- City of Houston (Public Works – Berm (W. 30th & Durham & Randall) This "pocket park" differs from the other 5 because it does not qualify as an esplanade. This means that GOCC was permitted to install an irrigation system and landscape the area, but it would not be eligible for free water. It also means that CoH administers it through a different group. Water is paid by GOCC.

- City of Houston (Health Department) – Community Garden (4412 Alba Rd), .6 acres

Our Civic Club's Beautification efforts are concentrated on the CoH Right of Way (ROW) areas within GO that we call pocket parks. The plan has been to leave maintenance of the large parks to HISD and CoH, and focus the GOCC efforts on the pocket parks and a few areas of high impact not well covered.

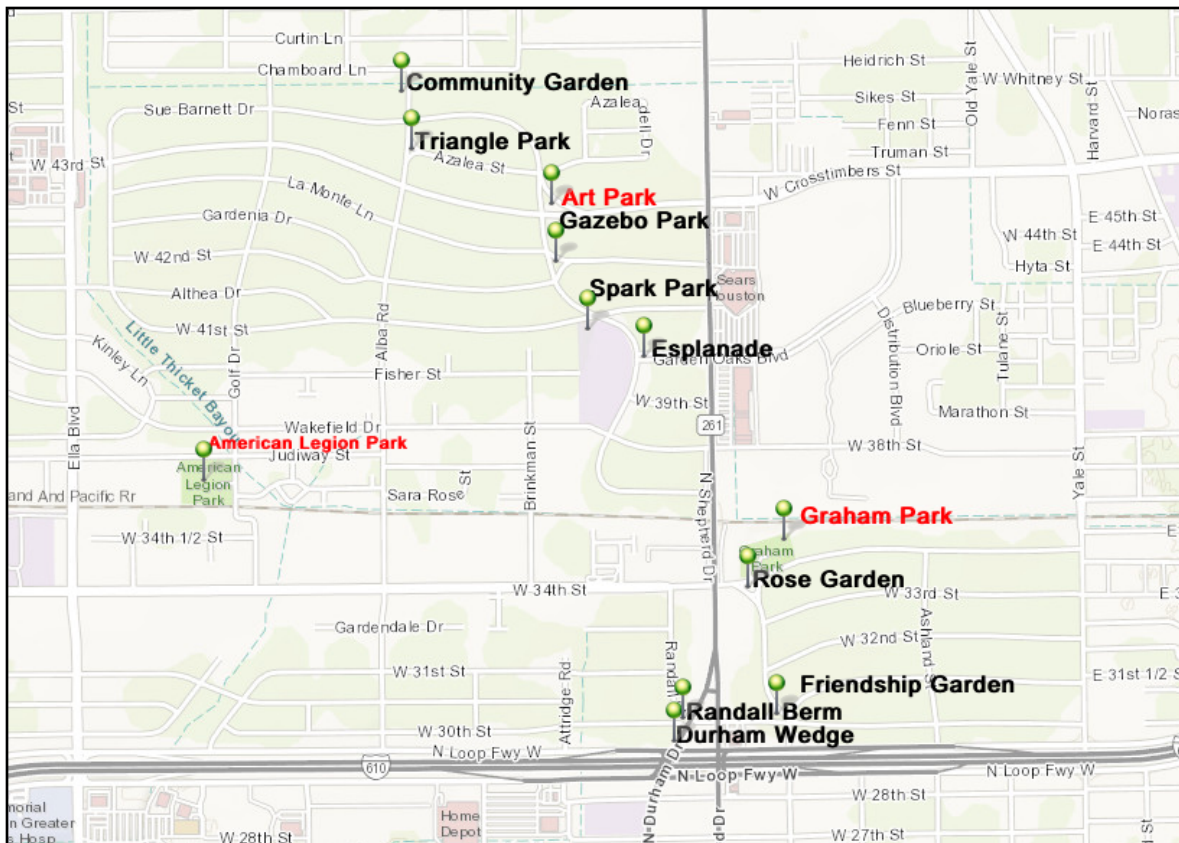
(continued page 5)

(Greenspaces from page 4)

The list of GOCC Beautification efforts outside of these pocket parks amounts to less than 20% of the maintenance spend in most years. These include:

- Graham Park – Tennis courts and tree planting projects
- Art Park - tree pruning, overgrowth clearance, wildflower planting & bed maintenance
- Spark Park - Buildout and more recently assistance with managing flooding in front of the school. Neighborhood volunteers operating on their own have provided considerable additional support to the Spark Park in the form of mowing and clearing the ditches.
- Wedge (TX DOT ROW along Durham) - mowing and trash pick-up
- Community Garden – twice monthly mowing of the ROW and twice annual overgrowth clearance in addition to paying for water used on the garden.

Pocket Park Maintenance is the focus of the GOCC Beautification efforts. Twice monthly mowing, trash pick-up, weeding, mulching, replanting, irrigation system repairs, and tree pruning for the 6 parks runs in the range of \$10-15K most years. The independent Garden Club provides additional financial support and a cadre of volunteers who do non-mowing support for Friendship Garden. The Garden Club support predates WWII.



This map does not include the undeveloped Harris County Storm Water Easements which lie unused along the north and west sides of Garden Oaks.

Beautification

Pam Parks, Committee Chair

2021 ended with an expanding list of things to do along with a new long list of volunteers interested in helping.

The cool months give us time to spend in our parks clearing beds, mulching, cutting back and removing plants that have become overgrown. The Community Garden, Gazebo Park, Art Park, Triangle Park and the Berm have all gotten a bit of attention with more to come February through April. Watch for the red and white "Workday Saturday" signs. All are welcome to come lend a hand.

The Berm located on the west side of Randall/W. 30th & Durham saw one of the year's largest workday turnouts, led by its new Captain, Sean Jez. Over a dozen neighbors showed up in December to replant shrubs lost in last year's Valentine's Day freeze. The shrubs were selected for their drought tolerance, pollinator friendliness, and suitability for creating a visual and sound barrier for nearby homes from the traffic along Durham. Species selected were cape honeysuckle, esperanza, duranta, and hamelia.

In addition to the shrubs, four new trees were planted along the sidewalk. These four trees replace trees lost to car collisions over the past 20 years. The plan is to replace lost

trees along this busy street with low-cost, fast-growing species like maple and sweet gum. Next up for the Berm will be the completion of edging and mulching around the crest of the Berm where we plan to continue with wildflower plantings while our screening shrubbery gets established.

The other good news at year end was that 17 residents/property owners expressed an interest in donating to and/or volunteering for Beautification projects. Among the list were some of "the usual suspects", but a majority were new names. We will be in touch!

Interested in helping? Email Pam at beautification@gardenoaks.org.



Valentine's Day Greetings

Source *History.com*

In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia. In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the "Mother of the Valentine," made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." Today, according to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. (An estimated 2.6 billion cards are sent for Christmas.) Women purchase approximately 85 percent of all valentines.



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Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

Happy Valentine's Day! At least I hope it's a happy day this year, as I'm sure almost no one needs the reminder of the polar vortex that descended upon us last year. It is my greatest hope that events like Hurricane Harvey and the Big Freeze are once in a lifetime happenings. Amazingly, the damage at Farmer Cathy's place during the freeze was not near as much a catastrophe as we experienced in the city. She lost a good number of laying hens, along with most of her crops, but a few somehow made it through.

I, on the other hand, hunkered down at nearby Itchy Acres with my artist friends. Luckily with my Boy Scout and Army training, I just pretended that I was camping. Sleeping bag, check. Food and water, check. Fuel and cooking devices, check. Of course, it doesn't hurt that I cook for a living and have a plethora of cooking equipment, so I came through fairly well.

This time around we'll still be dealing with the ongoing construction. I spoke with the City supervisor, and he said the plan is to complete the south side of Wakefield including the street, sidewalks and driveways before moving on to the north

side of the street. That will make it much safer for you and your family to make it down to your Farmer's Market each Saturday. As I've stated before, we're not going to push hard for additional vendors until the construction is completed. I've talked with Jennifer at Bloom, bloom flowers on returning at that time. In the meanwhile, you can find her on Facebook.

As always, "Come soon, come often and pray for a mild winter season."



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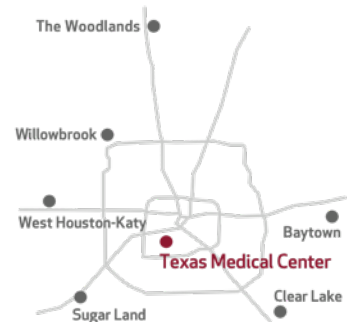


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Upcoming Preservation Houston Architecture Walks

Preservation Houston is Houston's only city-wide nonprofit historic preservation education and advocacy organization.

Midtown Architecture Walk

- **Sunday, February 13, 2022**
- 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Please note that advance ticket purchase is required for this walking tour.

The area now known as Midtown is a study in urban change. Originally developed as farmland, it transformed into the upscale South End residential district as Houston expanded to the south around the turn of the 20th century. Over the years that followed, South End residents moved to newer suburban neighborhoods, and their grand homes were demolished to make way for office and retail buildings, apartments and parking lots. Our docent-guided walking tour explores the area's evolution and the rich collection of architecture it has left us.

Historic Houston's Glenwood Cemetery Walk, Part II

- **Saturday, February 26, 2022**
- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Glenwood Cemetery

Please note that advance ticket purchase is required for this tour.

This two-hour, docent-guided tour looks at the lives and legacies of some of the men and women buried at Glenwood Cemetery who shaped Houston after the turn of the 20th century. They include oilmen R.L. Blaffer and Ross Sterling, who were among the founders of Humble Oil (later ExxonMobil), and Howard Hughes, the legendary billionaire whose family fortune was built on oilfield services.

Tickets to either tour may be purchased here:

<https://preservationhouston.org/calendar?category=Architecture%20Walks>



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Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting Minutes

Beth Jackson, Secretary

January 4, 2022 via Zoom online application.

President Tonya Knauth called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Tonight's meeting was originally scheduled to be in person but was changed to online format given the surging Omicron virus. Stay tuned to the Gazette, website, and FB for details on subsequent meetings.

Tonight's presentation shared early information and responses to the recent neighborhood survey so that GOCC leadership can work on key items and be responsive.

The 114 responses (8% of GO households) were fewer than received last year; 64% of respondents were paid civic club members. The same priorities from previous years ranked highest in the 2022 survey: security, beautification and communication. There is strong support for these priorities going forward. Comments ranged from those who would like to see more GOCC outreach to deed restriction challenges and changes.

GOCC will begin communicating directly with members on issues and need-to-know items via routine direct email. There was also an interest in social activities and opportunities to meet neighbors. Please make sure your email address is on file with GOCC. Register at gardenoaks.org.

The survey asked respondents if and what role GOCC should play in the absence of an active homeowners' association (HOA). Activities, including updating deed restrictions, specifically removing the racial language in the deed restrictions, plan review, and assistance in forming a new HOA were ranked by respondents. Full survey results will be posted soon on the website.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Paul Vincent gave an end of year financial report. GOCC has about \$87,000 in a general operating account and approximately \$88,000 in the Constable contract account. GOCC keeps the two accounts separate. Annual revenue comes into the Constable account and is paid directly to the contract for security and patrol.

(continued page 13)



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(Minutes continued from page 12)

For the general account, the Treasurer reported annual income of \$34,000 during 2021, which fell short of projections by \$3,000. Expenses for the year fell below budgeted amounts, however. The account has a sizable surplus due to judicious spending and several successful fundraising years in the past.

GOCC leadership budgeted to spend additional money from these reserves in 2022 to engage neighbors and encourage involvement in GOCC this year and in the future.

Current finances are available for neighbors to review by contacting treasurer@gardenoaks.org.

Committee Reports

Constable Program: Tonya read Terry Jeanes' report, noting that the 2022 Constable program dues forms have been mailed out and the Constable patrol contract will increase by \$3,000 beginning March 1, 2022. Contact constable@gardenoaks.org if you are interested

in volunteering. **Neighbors, call Constable Dispatch @ 713.755.7628 with any issues.**

Beautification: Pam Parks reported that the wildflower seeds have been planted in the Art Park on 43rd @ Sue Barnett. The committee has a surplus of sweet gum and loblolly pine trees left over from the tree giveaway in November. Email beautification@gardenoaks.org to make arrangements to receive a new, FREE native tree. The December 2021 workday on the Randall berm included the installation of several large, native shrubs to provide sound and visual barriers for residents in Section 1-A.

No beautification workdays are scheduled as of now, but please keep an eye on the neighborhood Facebook page and social media for early spring workdays to come soon.

GardenOaks.org: Pam Parks reported no issues with the GardenOaks.org website. The site is in need of a major overhaul and redesign in the future, but no date has been set for such yet.

(continued page 14)




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(Minutes continued from page 13)

GO Citizen Patrol: Mark Saranie was not available to attend the meeting. Interested in volunteering with the Garden Oaks Citizens Patrol? Please email gocop@gardenoaks.org for more info and an application. You must be 18 years old and pass a background check. The patrol is a great way to get to know the neighborhood and your neighbors.

Membership: Tonya delivered Dian Austin's report. 2022 dues forms have been mailed out. GOCC will continue its successful business membership program and hopes to expand it to new business members. The committee will mail a welcome postcard to new residents with introductory information and links to the website and main FB page.

GO Gazette: Christi Hartley mentioned that submissions are due by January 15th for the February Gazette. Send them to gazette@gardenoaks.org.

Social Media: John Alvar was not present at the meeting. Houston_GO Facebook page is the private group page just for GO residents. Submit a request to join with your address and get the latest information and events happening in the neighborhood.

Government Affairs/CIP: As a result of local and statewide redistricting, portions of Garden Oaks have new elected representatives. Political maps are online - <https://apps.texastribune.org/features/2021/texas-redistricting-map/>. Check out this resource to see if your state representative or Harris County Commissioner has changed in 2022.

The Garden Oaks Phase 2 Wakefield/Golf street and drainage project is ongoing. There is nothing new to report. If GO residents have any issues with the street construction, please email president@gardenoaks.org so that Tonya can call the City of Houston Public Works supervisor to immediately resolve issues. Don't call 311; email Tonya instead!

There is no update on Phase 3 of the GO drainage project - the Sue Barnett and 43rd Street phase. Similarly, no new updates on the GOCC sidewalk variance request to the CoH..


(Continued page 15)

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(Minutes continued from page 14)

Old Business

There is currently no waiver of the requirement that all new construction and significant remodeling in Garden Oaks must include sidewalks in the City of Houston. According to City Council member Abbie Kamin, there will be no general waiver to the new city ordinance requiring sidewalks for new construction and remodels. This is causing plenty of confusion for neighbors and new construction. GOCC will continue to monitor and share information as it is available.

New Business

Mike Stephens, who chaired the successful Wakefield Shuffle fundraiser with his wife Emily, suggested the creation of a Social Committee to undertake additional events and activities to promote neighborhood cohesion. Tonya agreed to create a GOCC Social Committee as an ad hoc committee for now as afforded under the organization's bylaws.

The February meeting will feature a presentation and discussion of the new City of Houston Heritage District designation with City Preservation Officer, Roman McAllen on Tuesday, February 1st at 7:00 pm.

With no further business raised, the January GOCC meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.



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Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. Hope to meet you at a civic club meeting soon!

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 1007 Lamonte
 3210 Lawrence
 3214 Lawrence
 1002 Sue Barnett
 1466 Sue Barnett
 511 W. 30th
 515 W. 30th
 523 W. 34th
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 717 W. 42nd
 930 W. 43rd
 1054 West 43rd

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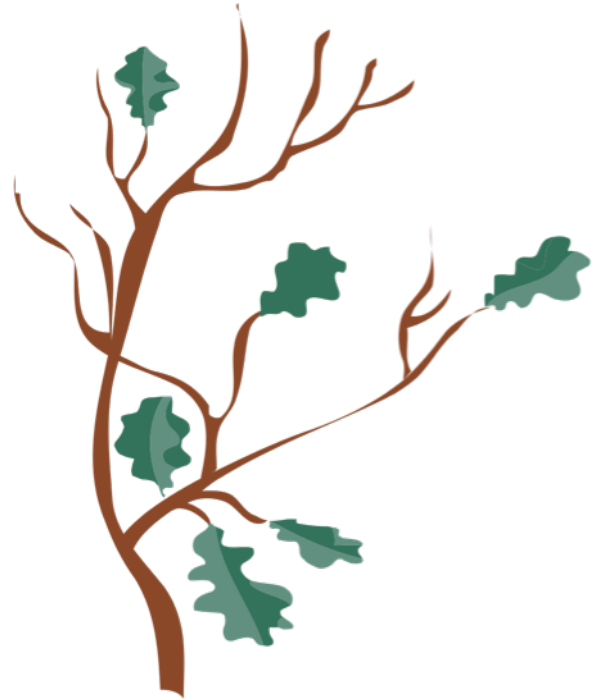
Ann Best - 2/2
 Georgia Lister - 2.5
 Tonya Knauth - 2/9
 Alisha Cunningham - 2/12
 Lela C. - 2/12
 Brenda de Alba - 2/17
 Terry Williams - 2/17
 M'lissa Dilley - 2/22
 Grady S. - 2/22
 Maya Rahman - 2/23
 Elan Britt - 2/28

Happy Anniversary

Will & Deanna Zugheri - 2/23

Out and About

Angie Lane and daughter enjoyed a trip to NYC, after a multi-year hiatus. The **Zindler Feit household** ventured to Wisconsin. The **Shamblens** visited Fredericksburg. **Gail Bell** spent a wonderful two months in Italy on holiday with daughter Allison and family.



Heather McKeown and family enjoyed Ski Santa Fe while **Jeff Gibbs** and **Melissa Reid** enjoyed ski time in Breckenridge. **Gina and John Greenslate** had an unforgettable trip to Hawaii. It was a Nashville Girls' Trip for **Julie Sherber** and friends.

Thoughts for our neighbors who lost someone special to them....

The Gannon family with the loss of their dear pup **Fonzie**.

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.

New to the Neighborhood?

We are glad you are here. If you'd like a **Welcome Packet** delivered to your door, please email Membership@gardenoaks.org.

Constable Statistics December 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
- Burglary of Motor Vehicle - 1
- Check /Park/School/Business - 19
- Civil Process – 5
- Contract Check – 122
- Criminal Mischief - 1
- Disturbance – Fireworks – 3
- Domestic Issue - 1
- Illegally Parked Vehicle – 1
- Information Call - 5
- Meet the Citizen – 37
- Special Assignment - 1
- Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 9
- Traffic Initiative - 2
- Traffic Stop – 5
- Vacation Watch – 91

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Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

News on the Constable Contract Front – Harris County has revised the contract term to a fiscal year 10/1 through 9/30. The next contract will be 10/1/22 through 9/30/23 with an increase in deputy cost to \$88,720 annually.

Welcome New Patrol Deputy - Joining our patrol of Garden Oaks mid-January is Deputy Jessica Clark.

Have you supported the Constable Program yet?

Thank you to our current supporters who are helping the thermometer red to rise. Note that as of this writing, we are at approximately \$42,000 in contributions for 2022. Let's Get That Red to Rise!!!

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. These rosters are generally updated monthly.

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 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 Garden, 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**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

opt-in for monthly emails re: neighborhood news and meeting notices

Garden Oaks Garden Club

Catalina Wahren

On Wednesday February, 16th, the Garden Oaks Garden Club will head out to St. Martin's Episcopal Church at 717 Sage Road to attend the Houston Garden Club's 2022 horticulture lecture by Dr. Doug Tallamy entitled "Nature's Best Hope for Conservation That Starts in Your Yard." It's a free event, 10-11 am. We invite interested Garden Oaks neighbors to meet up with us either at the 43rd Street Kroger parking lot at 9:15 a.m. to carpool or convoy, or at the church, before 10 am.



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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!

You can safely put these into your green recycling bin, loose:

- Metals and Cans: Aluminum and tin cans, such as soup cans, coffee cans, vegetable cans
- Cartons: Emptied and rinsed milk cartons, juice cartons, soup cartons
- Glass: Emptied and rinsed bottles, jugs, and jars

- Paper: Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail. NO shredded paper!
- Cardboard: Cardboard and cereal boxes, flattened and emptied of packing materials
- Plastic: Bottles, tubs and jugs, #1 – 5 and #7. Examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, margarine tubs, detergent bottles (emptied and rinsed).



Gazette Advertising Rates/Sizes/Submission Guidelines

Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 1/4 W x 2 3/8 H	\$60.00	\$300.00	\$580.00
2 1/4 W x 4 1/4 H	\$90.00	\$450.00	\$870.00
Half Page 7 1/2 W X 4 1/2 H	\$110.00	\$550.00	\$1065.00
Full Page 7 1/2 W x 9 1/2 H	\$180.00	\$900.00	\$1745.00
Half Page Back Cover	\$150.00	\$750.00	
Full Page Back Cover	\$225.00	\$1125.00	
Full-page insert, single-sided	\$280.00		
Full-page insert, double-sided	\$325.00		

Please note:

1. Placement of ads is subject to the discretion of the editor.
2. Artwork must be e-mailed to gazetteads@gardenoaks.org by the 15th of each month for publication the following month.
3. Artwork may be submitted in one of the following formats: JPEG (.jpg), PDF (.pdf), GIF (.gif) or TIF (.tif).



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Strategies For Saving Energy in 2022

Mitch Weigand

Here are some simple strategies to help you save energy and make sure your home's heating system is running efficiently.

Take advantage of the sun's warmth

Open the curtains on the south and west-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat your home. Close them at night to reduce the chill.

Keep dust to a minimum

Dust, pet hair, and other air-borne particles eventually collect on the air filter. A simple and cost-effective means of dusting is to dampen an old towel and run it over your furniture. Any particles will be trapped on the towel, and you can throw it in the washer.

Replace your air filter every month

This is one of the most overlooked home maintenance tasks.. Make it easy on yourself by having them always on hand.

Reduce heat loss from your fireplace

Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning. Install tempered glass doors and a heat-air exchange system that blows warmed air back into the room.

An open damper is like having an open window in the winter. Since hot air rises, this allows expensive, heated air to escape up the chimney. But do this only when you are not burning a fire. If you never use your fireplace, consider sealing the chimney flue.

Lower the temperature on your thermostat

When cooking your evening meal, your oven will help keep the house warm. Your ceiling fan will pull warm air upward and distribute it throughout the room. When you leave the house or go to bed, turn your thermostat down five degrees. You will save on heating bills. A programmable thermostat can do this automatically for you.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise TM.

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Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand

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Stephen H., Garden Oaks

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FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	Civic Club meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom Garbage, Lawn, & Recycling	2  Ground Hog Day	3	4	Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
6	7	8 Garbage & Lawn	9	10	11	Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
13	14  Valentines Day	15 Gazette Articles Due Garbage, Lawn, & Recycling	16	17 Junk Pickup	18	19 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
20  President's Day	21	22 Garbage & Lawn	23	24	25	26 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
27	28	1	2	3	4	

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