



May 2022

Volume 44 Issue 05

# Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

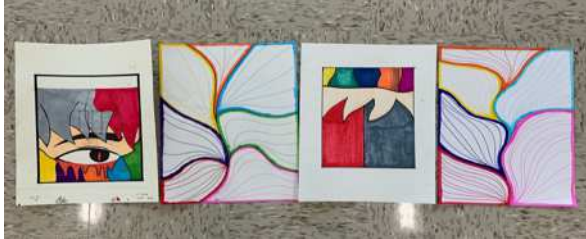
## New Neighborhood Art

*Pam Park-Beautification Chair*

Back in December of 2020, GOCC was notified by the City of Houston that our request for a mini-mural for the intersection at Garden Oaks Boulevard and N. Shepherd was approved. We invited the art students at Garden Oaks Montessori to help come up with a theme for the project. The civic club started the steps to get the damaged signal box repaired and the surrounding area cleared of some dense understory growth.

Ms. Tian Ding's art class at GOMM developed the designs, and in late August 2021, a favorite was selected. Caroline Truong from UP Art Studio took the design concept and extended it to include the full face of a child and a word message that mirrored the vibrant color palate in the original design.

The project was completed in late March of 2022, and we now have a colorful message at one of the gateways to Garden Oaks.



original drawings



before

## Garden Oaks Civic Club

### GOCC May Meeting: IN PERSON ONLY

Tuesday, May 3rd  
7:00 pm  
Great Heights Brewing  
Private Back Room  
938 Wakefield

### NO ZOOM LINK

#### Topics:

1. Open discussion regarding sidewalk ordinance
2. Heritage District designation

Anyone can attend-  
**GOCC members can vote**

You may join GOCC before meeting starts.

## 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! Most of these are repeats from last year!

If you/your business is interested in joining our annual program, please email [membership@gardenoaks.org](mailto: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**

**Verde Wealth Group**

**Nationwide Tools & Supplies**

**Frost Bank, 4606 N. Shepherd Dr.**

**Central City Air**

### 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](mailto:Membership@gardenoaks.org).

### Civic Club Officers

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

### Committee Chairs

Beautification – Pam Parks 713 686 7728  
[beautification@gardenoaks.org](mailto:beautification@gardenoaks.org)

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

Membership – Dian Austin 713 691 6505  
733 West 42nd  
[membership@gardenoaks.org](mailto:membership@gardenoaks.org)

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The Garden Oaks *Gazette* is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published monthly. The submission deadline to the editor is 11:59 PM of the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted.

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

# 8th Annual Girl Scout Troop 21 Bake Sale!

Tina Sabuco

Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 2pm  
859 Azalea Street front yard

We invite you to participate in our very special bake sale for our very special scouts. This will be our 8th year hosting a bake sale and our 11th year as leaders of the troop. This is the only fundraiser we have for the year and thanks to the generosity of so many Garden Oaks neighbors and friends who have baked, volunteered, and/or donated in the past, the money that we raised through this bake sale has carried our troop of 20 scouts throughout the year. We hope that you can come out and support and meet our very special scouts.

Troop 21 is the only Girl Scout troop in the US comprised entirely of adults with special needs. The troop formed in 1976, and many of the then-young women are still members today. Members range in age from mid-20s to mid-60s. Like most Girl Scouts, we meet monthly and provide activities that help the scouts learn, socialize, contribute and, most of all, HAVE FUN!!! Funding from this bake sale fuels an entire year of activities, including field trips to the theater, dining adventures, crafting, and celebrating birthdays. We are able to buy supplies for art projects, crafts, snacks, prizes and more! The highlight of the Scouts' year is our annual Christmas/Hanukkah party, complete with a bagful of gifts from their wish list and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

How can YOU help?

- Bake some goodies for us to sell. You may drop off any baked goods the day before the sale, or anytime up to the time of the sale. Please label your goodies as to what they are and what they contain. Ex: Brownies w/Walnuts. We welcome individual bags of goodies and/or whole baked goods. Whole cakes, pies, and loaves of bread are always VERY popular!
- Stop by and purchase items. Please visit us and our scouts.
- Bring your pups. We will have a table filled with Doggy Delights. So, bring your fur family members (many of our scouts love to visit with them) or pick up some treats to take home.
- Make a monetary donation. We will happily accept checks (made out to Tina Sabuco, with Troop 21 in the memo section). Bring them to the sale or mail to 859 Azalea, 77018.
- We invite you to simply visit. Socializing and just engaging are very important parts of this experience for our troop, so please just stop by and say "Hi"!

Questions? Please contact me at [tina@artsaliveinc.com](mailto:tina@artsaliveinc.com) or 713-819-9339.

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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).

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# Ten Essential Tips To Make Your Car Last 200K Miles

*Joy Shute, Open Road Automotive*

The best things you can do for your car are the small, consistent things to keep it running like the first day you bought it. Here's a list of 10 easy tips to keep your car running for years to come.

**Regular Service.** The single best thing you can do is to regularly service your vehicle. Every manufacturer has a set of recommendations; be familiar with yours and keep a regular schedule for fluid flushes and inspections.

**Check your fluids** for both level and color whenever you fill up for gas. If you're not sure what color your fluids should be, we'll be happy to show you at no charge.

**Change your oil, oil filter, and air filter** regularly to protect your engine, improve gas mileage, and prevent your engine from clogging.

**Avoid "peeling out" or "jackrabbit starts."** It's a huge stress on your engine.

**Keep at least a "3-second cushion"** of safe distance between you and the vehicle in front of you. This keeps you safer, and it also cuts down on hard braking, which can burn through your brake pads.

**Reduce unnecessary weight.** Got a heavy, old box in your trunk? Get rid of it! Needless added weight in your car can reduce your fuel economy by 1-2%.

**Wash your car routinely.** It actually protects your car's body work by preventing corrosion. This is especially true when you wash the undercarriage, too.

**Get an inexpensive tire pump.** This is a great way to make sure your tires are inflated at the proper PSI. This can impact your gas mileage by more than 30%.

**Check for alignment** at every scheduled maintenance. Keeping your alignment and balance will help with handling and prevents extra strain on your engine and drivetrain.

**Rotate your tires** at every other maintenance (or every 6,000 miles). This will ensure even wear and tear, and will keep your tires in good shape, making them last longer.

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## Upcoming Preservation Houston Architecture Walks

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

### Rice University Architecture Walk

- Sunday, May 15, 2022
- 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Please note that advance ticket purchase is required for this walking tour. Tickets can be purchased at [preservationhouston.org](http://preservationhouston.org).**

The Rice University campus is one of the most beautiful places in Houston thanks to the Mediterranean-influenced designs of Boston architects Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, who were responsible for the university's earliest buildings. Our 90-minute, docent-guided walking tour circles the campus, exploring the history of the university itself, the story and murder of its founder and the development of Rice's signature architectural style.

### The Women of Glenwood Cemetery Walking Tour

- Saturday, May 28, 2022
- 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Glenwood Cemetery off Washington Ave.

**Please note that advance ticket purchase is required for this tour. ([preservationhouston.org](http://preservationhouston.org))**

Historic Glenwood Cemetery is known for its beauty, but the stories of the people buried there are just as compelling — especially Glenwood's women, whose legacies range from the suffrage movement to the silver screen. This tour tells the stories of some of those fascinating women and their impacts locally and nationally. Among the featured subjects are Charlotte Allen, the wife of Houston co-founder Augustus Allen; suffragists Annette Finnigan and Florence Sterling; publisher and stateswoman Oveta Culp Hobby, who led the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps during World War II; and movie star Gene Tierney.

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## Garden Club Plant Exchange

The Garden Club is having its annual plant exchange on Saturday, May 14th, 10 am, at Gazebo Park (where Lamonte/Sue Barnett/W. 42nd come together).

The exchange is a fun event and open to anyone who wants to bring a plant or cutting (not required) and take one home.

Please join us!

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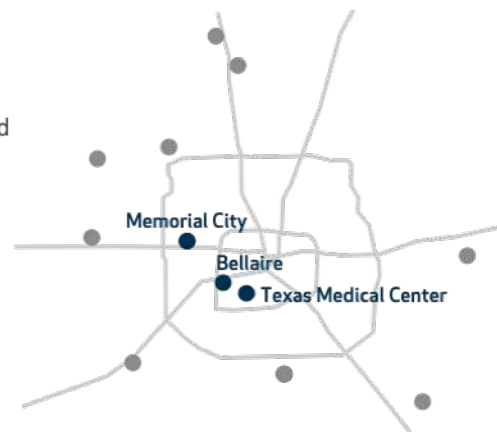
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# Reuse Warehouse

*Excerpted from the City of Houston's Reuse Warehouse site*

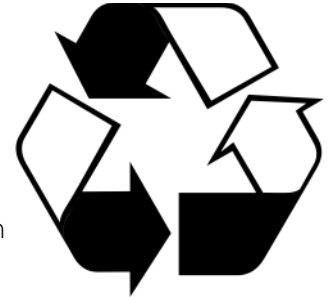
Remodeling? Want to know what to do with all those windows, doors, cabinets, etc. that you are replacing? Take them to the nearby City Reuse Warehouse.

To help reduce waste, the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department has developed a Reuse Warehouse. The Building Materials Reuse Warehouse benefits the community by providing space for excess building materials that would otherwise be dumped in local landfills. Construction material accounts for 38% of the waste stream in the Houston area.

The Warehouse accepts material from individuals, supply companies, and builders, and makes it freely available for reuse by any non-profit organization. The Reuse Warehouse is funded in part by a grant from the Houston Galveston Area Council.

While at this time the Reuse Warehouse is only able to pass on building materials to non-profit organizations, many of these local organizations make materials available to individuals.

**The Reuse Warehouse is located very close to Garden Oaks, at 9003 N. Main, just north of Crosstimbers.**



It is open Tuesday – Friday, from 8:30 to 4:30 pm. And every 2nd and 4th Saturday. Contact info: 281-814-3324, [reuse.warehouse@houstontx.gov](mailto:reuse.warehouse@houstontx.gov)

The Warehouse accepts cabinets, doors, electrical fixtures and equipment fans, flooring materials, glass, gutters, lighting, lumber, metal, mirrors, pipe, plumbing, plywood, roofing materials, screens, sheetrock, sinks, showers, trim, tubs, wall coverings, and windows. They do NOT accept paint, appliances, used carpet, fluorescent lights, etc.




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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.

1038 Gardenia  
3003 Randall  
1526 Sue Barnett  
523 W. 30th  
825 W. 30th  
212 W. 32nd  
524 W. 32nd  
308 W. 34th  
504 W. 34th  
722 W. 38th  
806 W. 41st  
942 W. 41st  
734 W. 42nd  
855 W. 42nd



## Happy Birthday

Cheryl McCosh 1st  
Margot Velez 1st  
  
Brad Hem 2nd  
Christopher K. 5th  
Linda Sparks 8th  
Ryan W. 9th  
Jenny Odinet 14th  
Victor Seghers 20th  
Riley T. 22nd  
Amelie P. 24th  
Lauren S. 24th  
Shannon Miller 31st  
Rowan S. 31st

## Happy Anniversary

Victor and Deb Seghers 3rd  
Jason and Alisha Cunningham 15th

## Congratulations

**Julian Seghers** was honored at a recent HISD ceremony for being Valedictorian for Heights High School this year.

**Alex Feit** competed in the World Ninja Athlete Games where 59 gyms from 21 countries participated. Out of 72 girls in her age group, Alex placed 2nd.

**Kiko and Sydnee Velez** welcomed new baby Avi on April 14th. Margot is an excited super sister!

## Out and About

**Al Thomas and Dea Larson** enjoyed time with family at the Mauna Kea Beach Resort in Hawaii.

It was a great time for the **Zindler- Feit** family in Breckenridge Colorado.

**Catherine Clark and Terry Jeanes** had an adventuresome trip to Miami and beyond including visits to Little Havana, South Beach, Carnival Cruise Lines Soiree 50th Birthday event, sliding down Amber Cove Dominican Republic's waterfalls and golf carting throughout Grand Turk.

**Tony and Debbie Padon** took a fun ski trip with friends to Aspen in March.

Lots of fun was had Port Aransas for **Carl Waters and Leslie Ryan**.

**The McLeans** had a blast in Montana.

Locally the **Zamora family** attended the unveiling of the Norma Zenteno sculpture at The Center for Pursuit - being the first official sculpture of a Latina in Houston.

**Sandra O'Guynn and family** had fun sledding down the sand dunes at White Sands National Park.

Great times at the beach for **Hal Bowman, Georgia Lister,** and family.

The **Good family** created fun memories at Dollywood.

**Jeff Gibbs and Melissa Reid** had a blast skiing in Breckenridge.



*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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## Constable Statistics March 2022

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 Minor - 1	Meet the Officer – 1
Alarm Call – 2	Subject Stop - 1
Check /Park/School/Business – 24	Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 5
Civil Process –2	Theft Other – 1
Compliance Check - 2	Traffic Hazard - 1
Contract Check – 356	Traffic Initiative - 4
Criminal Mischief - 1	Traffic Stop – 2
Disturbance/Loud Noise/Other – 4	Vacation Watch – 33
Drug OD Possession – 1	Vehicle Abandoned – 1
Illegally Parked Vehicle - 2	Vehicle Stolen – 1
Information Call - 2	K9 Deployment - 2
Meet the Citizen – 26	



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## Constable Program

*Terry Jeanes, Program Chair*

### Have you supported the Constable Program yet?

Thank you to our current supporters, some 265 people as we go to press. We are at about \$75,000 in contributions. That is not quite enough to pay for even one constable patrol. Keep those contributions coming in!

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!

**REQUEST:** Looking for a volunteer sign installer for the Wood Thermometer Signs. Please email [constable@gardenoaks.org](mailto:constable@gardenoaks.org) or call/text Terry (281-236-8033).

**If you need a new Constable Supporter sign, please 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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# Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

*Beth Jackson, Secretary*

April 5, 2022

President Tonya Knuath called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed a good turnout to Great Heights Brewing, serving as meeting host. Lisa McMillian, Candlelight Estates resident and monarch butterfly enthusiast, delivered a great presentation on monarch butterflies, their migration and habitats.

## Treasurer's Report

Paul Vincent reported that GOCC will be supporting GOMM with a contribution of \$500 toward teacher engagement via the PTO. Current finances are available for review by contacting [treasurer@gardenoaks.org](mailto:treasurer@gardenoaks.org).

## Committee Reports

**Constable Program:** Volunteers are always needed, specifically those who can update the thermometer signs at neighborhood entrances. Contact [constable@gardenoaks.org](mailto:constable@gardenoaks.org) if you are interested in volunteering. **Call Constable Dispatch @ 713.755.7628 with any issues.**

**Beautification:** Pam Parks said significant work has been completed in the area greenspaces. An additional workday is needed to clean out leaf and debris build-up in the culvert near GOMM, to mitigate flooding. Efforts won't be focused on the median at Apollo/W. 43rd until after the 43rd St. re-work/construction planned for the near future is completed.

Check out the new mini-mural at GO Boulevard & N. Shepherd, a colorful addition to our neighborhood. There are plenty of other signal boxes around the perimeter of Garden Oaks. If you want to see one painted, please email [president@gardenoaks.org](mailto:president@gardenoaks.org).

New volunteers for the Beautification Committee are always welcome. A big THANK YOU to Pam and her team for their incredible work and dedication to getting our pocket parks and greenspaces ready for the Spring.

(continued page 16)



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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.**

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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 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](http://gardenoaks.org)**

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(meetings page 14)

GardenOaks.org: Pam Parks said GOCC has been sending out email notifications of meetings each month and has had a positive response so far. If you are not receiving the email reminders and would like to get them, please register at [www.GardenOaks.org](http://www.GardenOaks.org).

**GO Citizens Patrol:** Mark Saranie was not present. Interested in joining the Garden Oaks Citizens Patrol? Contact Mark at [gocop@gardenoaks.org](mailto:gocop@gardenoaks.org).

**Membership:** Dian Austin reported that there are currently 215 paid Civic Club members, up from 205 last month. There are also 261 paid constable program members currently. Under the Business Membership program, we have 12 business members. The evenings' raffle prizes were won by 4 different attendees: large milkweed plants, provided by the Garden Club.

GO Gazette: Editor Christi Hartley reminded us that the deadline for the May Gazette is April 15th. Please send in your articles, advertisements, and comments by the deadline.

**Social Media:** John Alvar was not present. John is focused on our Instagram account, @GardenOaksHouston.

Tonya announced the creation of a new **Social Committee** for GOCC, to be chaired by Emily Stephens. New social events and ways to connect with the neighborhood are in our future. Look for more information in June 2022.

**Government Affairs/CIP:** Tonya passed around a sign-up sheet for questions and concerns about the sidewalk issue, including the possibility of a heritage district designation for Garden Oaks. Those attending were asked to sign up to speak and ask questions and to discuss the issues at hand at the open forum.

The Golf Dr. construction project is proceeding as planned. Kevin David, GOCC VP, reported that there have been concerns about people driving the wrong way on one-way streets within the construction footprint. Signage is being disrupted which makes directions difficult to decipher.

(continued page 17)



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Recommendations have been made to secure signage with sandbags to prevent confusion and wrong-way traffic. The timeline projects 4-6 weeks per block moving north on Golf from Wakefield to 43rd St; the projected completion date is September 2022. The City of Houston hopes to have the Wakefield construction completed by June 2022.

Are you having any issues with the construction? Email Tonya at [president@gardenoaks.org](mailto:president@gardenoaks.org). The City crew supervisor responds to her quickly. Do not call 311 or your Councilmember or the Mayor's office. Reach out to Tonya for a quick solution.

**Old Business**

Discussion topics: the City of Houston sidewalk ordinance and possible heritage district designation. Tonya called for a discussion limited to 3 minutes per person for those signed up to speak. There was to be no motion or resolution on the issue at the April meeting.

Shane Davis voiced his concern that the whole neighborhood be included in the decision to apply for heritage district or not. Tonya responded that GOCC will

maintain an open dialogue and that members will be included in any decision.


Reagan Cracknell asked if a heritage district would protect trees and green spaces in our neighborhood? The answer is yes on public property and in the rights of way.

Cathy Warren noted that the sole sidewalk on 42nd street is a trip hazard for pedestrians and contributes to the mud retention near the street. She referenced a 2013 article on best management practices for low-impact development which she contributed to the Garden Oaks Gazette. Tonya suggested we publish an updated version of Cathy's article in a future edition.


Another resident voiced her concerns that her section is made up of primarily new homes that have been built before the sidewalk ordinance was in place. If the few original houses left are razed, then the new homes being built would be required to have sidewalks, yet those sidewalks wouldn't connect anywhere, being sidewalks to nowhere. She was also concerned about traffic around GOMM and on nearby streets, specifically the 800 block of W. 41st.

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(meeting page 17)

Tonya said that she, Beth Jackson, Pam Parks and James Elmore met with a City of Houston planning department representative to review the City's sidewalk ordinance implications in Garden Oaks. For our neighborhood, the required sidewalks for new construction would not contribute to the City's objective of increasing walkability, as most of the sidewalks would not be connected to anything. While the City's Planning group considers potential revisions to the sidewalk ordinance, builders should submit a Modification Application that will exempt them for now while changes to the ordinance are being considered. The application is online: [https://www.houstontx.gov/planning/Forms/devregs/modification%20of%20sidewalk%20application\\_draft%209-29.pdf](https://www.houstontx.gov/planning/Forms/devregs/modification%20of%20sidewalk%20application_draft%209-29.pdf)

After all comments and discussion, Tonya thanked all for a good conversation and productive questions. We will continue to answer questions via the [heritage@gardenoaks.org](mailto:heritage@gardenoaks.org) email address for the next month.

### **New Business**

There was no new business introduced, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.




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# Top 10 A/C Mistakes to Avoid - Part One

*Mitch Weigand*

## 10. Going with the cheapest contractor

As with most things, you get what you pay for. Whether choosing an A/C contractor for a simple repair or a full installation, it is tempting to go with the cheapest price. This can be a huge mistake because the lowest priced contractor will invariably use the lowest quality equipment and poorly trained staff. Choose a highly reputable company, especially one recommended by friends or family. It will be much better in the long run because your high quality A/C system will be properly installed and maintained by experienced, reliable technicians.

## 9. Trying to hide your outdoor unit

Your outside unit, the condenser, isn't the most attractive lawn ornament you have. However, it really needs its own space to function properly. Some homeowners try to obscure the condenser by planting trees, shrubbery and flowers around it, blocking the airflow which makes it more difficult for the A/C system to cool your home. Leave approximately three feet of clearance all around and at least five feet above it.

## 8. Blocking or closing your air vents

Some homeowners think that by closing vents in unused rooms in their homes, they can save energy by not cooling those areas.

This is not an effective energy-saving strategy, and it can actually lead to problems in comfort, efficiency and performance.

## 7. Having appliances near the thermostat

If you place lamps or other heat-producing appliances near your thermostat, it can cause your thermostat to sense your home is warmer than it actually is. This keeps your A/C unit running longer than it needs to which can waste energy.

## 6. Cranking down the thermostat

The lower you set your thermostat, the faster your home will cool down, right? Not really. Your home cools down at the same rate no matter where your thermostat is set. Besides, the lower you set the thermostat, the harder the A/C system will have to work. Ease the load on both your air conditioner and wallet by setting the thermostat to the highest temperature at which you are comfortable. Also, use other devices such as ceiling fans and programmable thermostats to help keep you cool.

*Part two will be in next month's issue of the Garden Oaks Gazette.*

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

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# MAY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 GOCC meeting 7:00 pm Garbage, Yard Waste	4	5 Cinco De Mayo 	6	7 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
8  Mother's Day	9	10 Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycling	11	12	13	14 Garden Club Plant Exchange— Gazebo Park 10:00 am
15 GS Troop 21 Bake Sale (page 3) Gazette Articles Due	16	17 Garbage, Yard Waste	18	19 Tree Waste	20	21 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
22	23	24 Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycliig	25	26	27	28 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
29	30 Memorial Day City Holiday	31 Garbage, Yard Waste	1	2	3	4 

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