



July 2022

Volume 44 Issue 07

Garden Oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

4th of July Parade

Tonya Knauth, GOCC President

Get those bikes, wagons and strollers ready! The 4th of July Bike Parade is coming!

We are looking forward to the return of the annual Fourth of July Bike Parade. This year's parade will take place Saturday, July 2nd at 9 AM.

All neighbors are invited to come out and show their spirit by decorating their bikes, scooters, wagons and other non-motorized vehicles in festive red, white and blue! If you can't ride or walk, spectators play an equally important role!

Lineup will start at 8:30 AM along Sue Barnett starting at W 41st, next to the Spark Park. The parade will follow its historic route starting at the Spark Park going north on Sue Barnett, west down 42nd St., south on Alba, east on 41st St. and returning to the Spark Park. Snacks and drinks will be available at the end.

Thank you to Pamela and Matt Bell for coordinating this event!



Garden Oaks Civic Club

GOCC July Meeting: IN PERSON ONLY

Tuesday, July 5th

7:00 pm

Great Heights Brewing

Private Back Room

938 Wakefield

NO ZOOM LINK

Topic: There will be a vote on a motion to submit an application to the City of Houston seeking designation of the Garden Oaks neighborhood as a Heritage District.

Anyone can attend-
GOCC members can vote

Neighbors 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.

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.

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.

Whose Grass is it Anyway?

Dian Austin, Section 2 resident

Most of us in Garden Oaks have a drainage swale out front near the street. And most of us use that area for off-street parking. Most of us also think about that area as being part of our yards.

Driving through the neighborhood, I have seen several homes where residents have put rocks or sometimes bigger boulders on the grassy area out by the street in front of their homes in order to keep people from parking there. Other property owners use cones or sticks for the same reason. Most of the time this is due to construction in the area, and numerous sub-contractors constantly parking up and down the street. Homeowners are concerned about the parking in their yards, which can often cause big ruts, and sometimes there's trash that spills out as well.

The question came up at a recent Civic Club meeting about who owns this grassy area anyway? I did some research and talked to several people at the City and here's what I found:

1. The City of Houston owns that area between the front swale and the street. It is the City's Right of Way (ROW). Most of us think that we own that area, but we don't.
2. Putting rocks, sticks, cones, etc. in the City ROW to keep people from parking on it is called an encroachment. The Office of the City Engineer (OCE) can at any time remove unpermitted items from the City's ROW.
3. Anything you put in the City's ROW is done at your own peril. You could be at fault if someone happens to run into those rocks or boulders and is injured. You don't own the area to encroach on it.

Having dealt with an eternal new construction project near my home, I get it. I know it can be disturbing to constantly find trucks parked in front of your house day in and day out. But maybe the thing to do is to remove the encroachments once the projects are finished, so we can all go back to being neighborly and having our off street parking areas unencumbered.



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Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

My, my, it's already July. Okay, I know that's a terrible rhyme, but, I just couldn't resist, and it's way better than my standard rant about the insufferable summer heat. But in all seriousness, this year has zoomed by. Could it be because life on Wakefield has seemed so disjointed with the never ending construction? Or perhaps it's due to my ill-fated return to corporate life as a bartender at the K-Bar in the Kroger on 11th street, which ended unceremoniously around the first of June?

While putting out cones for my Wednesday burger night pop-up on Wakefield, the construction crew was prepping to pour the driveways at Decant Urban Winery and Wakefield Crowbar along with the majority of the sidewalks from Alba to the businesses. This will make getting down the street to the market on foot much safer.

The great thing about my exit from corporate life is that it gives me more time to concentrate on my first passion, cooking. So y'all can expect bistro night to return on both Friday and Saturday evenings: think date night featuring steak dinners, crab cakes, soups, and

salads. More prepared foods will be available at the Farmstand on Saturday mornings.

On a personal note, July also ushers in my birthday month in which I'll be celebrating my 65th revolution on the third rock from the sun. While most of my contemporaries are thinking of retirement, I'm planning on starting a whole new adventure in the food business. More to come on that later. However, I will tease that if this idea were to come to fruition, this move may well revolutionize our little neighborhood market and make for a much more pleasant experience for both the vendors and our loyal supporters. It's just in the planning stages and won't happen until sometime in the fall.

In the meantime, we will continue to deal with whatever the weather and construction send our way. We believe that once all is said and done the Farmstand will become one of the little gems on a revitalized Wakefield.

As always, "Come soon, come often and let's look forward to the future."

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Hello Neighbor,

My husband Michael and I have been in the area for a handful of years, but in case we haven't crossed paths yet, I'm excited to further introduce myself. My name is Lauren Alff, and I do residential real estate because I'm passionate about helping people with super important, big life things...and it doesn't get much bigger than buying or selling a home! I love helping people navigate these processes and transitions. Michael and I have made a couple of these transitions ourselves in recent years.

We first renovated a wonderful home in Oak Forest which we enjoyed very much and brought our first baby (Emery) home to. We really loved it there! The hike and bike trail, the neighbors, all of it. After a few years in that home, we made the move into Garden Oaks for another renovation opportunity, a larger lot, and Garden Oaks Montessori for our kiddos. Here we have welcomed our second baby (Logan). I'm so glad we're in a neighborhood just "next door" so we can stay in touch and appreciate all the great area amenities.

We love supporting the local spots, old and new. I work out at the YMCA on 34th and take Emery and Logan there as often as I can squeeze it in. We recently joined the fabulous GO KIDS group and look forward to meeting many of you at their events.

I made the career transition into real estate after 13 years as a personal fitness and wellness trainer, and it's been a pleasure guiding my clients through the home buying and selling process ever since. I am a full-service Realtor, meaning I take care of the big stuff and the small stuff from start to finish. From a master marketing plan to sell or a strategy for purchasing a home to changing garage door batteries, myself and my team do it all.

As you've likely noticed, the real estate market in our neighborhood is hot! If you're ever simply curious about selling your home, I'm always happy to give you a complimentary market assessment specific to your property. I understand and appreciate that many people really just need to ask questions and feel it out before making any big decisions.

I'd be delighted to do business with you, but the Alffs want you to know you're welcome in our home as well! You may see me out pushing the stroller and walking the dog. If you do, I hope you'll say hello! I welcome any opportunity to make a new friend, hear your story, and learn what you love about our neighborhood.

All the best,

Lauren Alff

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GO Kids Smile for the Camera for Mother's Day!

Amy Lee, GO Kids Admin

Have you heard about Garden Oaks Kids? We are a membership-based* community group bringing together more than 150 neighborhood families in Garden Oaks and Oak Forest, giving us a small-town feel within the big city. Each year, we host a handful of big blow-out celebrations, small playdates, moms' nights out, educational events, and more...all in our own backyard. Our mission is to bring families together for long-lasting childhood memories as our kids grow up together.

Our most recent event was at the iconic Garden Oaks Gazebo where we celebrated Mother's Day with a picnic and a photo shoot with Kristin Silliman Photography. Sponsored by SPA 146 and Threadfare Children's Boutique, kids enjoyed a craft for mom while waiting for their photo time and a picnic box with friends afterwards. Although we were all a little balmy, thanks to the Texas heat, everyone's pictures were adorable and something Mom can cherish for years and years to come!



GO Kids Mother's Day Picnic and Photos (provided by Garden Oaks resident Kristin Silliman Photography) at the Garden Oaks Gazebo, May 2022

Not a GO Kids member, but interested in meeting your neighbors and enjoying fun family activities right in your own backyard? Scan the QR code below to pay dues and then request to join the GO Kids Facebook group to learn about upcoming events. Some of our other events include our Halloween Block Party Bash on W. 42nd, Easter Egg Extravaganza in Section 4, and our Christmas party offering photos with Santa at Walking Stick Brewery. All our smaller events are also hosted in 77018 – local parks, Wakefield Crowbar, d'Alba, American Legion, to name a few previous venues. Members may also rent the GO Kids' bounce house and projector and inflatable screen for nominal fees (\$10 - \$20/day).



*GO Kids is a membership-and dues-based group. Each family's dues are \$75 per calendar year. All events are FREE to everyone in the member's family. Members are not asked to volunteer or assist.

Receiving the Monthly Civic Club Update?

If you'd like to receive a monthly email that will give you the specifics of the next Civic Club meeting (date, location, topic, speaker, etc.), information about upcoming neighborhood events, and a link to the upcoming Gazette newsletter before it's delivered to your home, we've got you covered.

Some of you are already receiving these monthly emails, but if not and you want to get on the mailing list, go to gardenoaks.org and register under the Members tab. You should then automatically receive the email update.

The Civic Club intends to send these emails only monthly, so your inbox won't be overflowing. We do not sell or publish these email lists.

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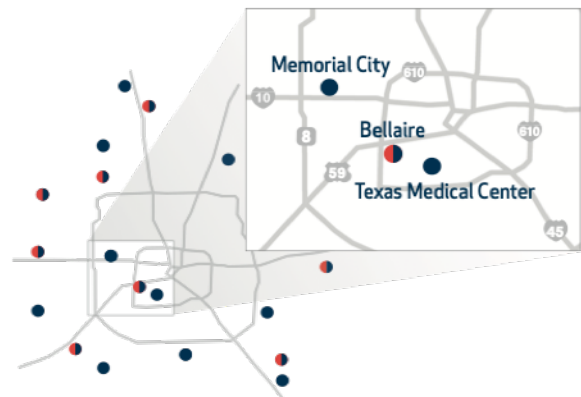
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"KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE?" "HEART OF GOLD"
 "IN A PICKLE" "SET YOUR TEETH ON EDGE"
 "FAINT HEARTED" "SO-SO" "GOOD RIDDANCE"
 "LIE LOW" "FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE" "BAITED BREATH" "SEND HIM PACKING"
 "WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE" "COME WHAT MAY"
 "THE GAME IS UP"
 "NOT SLEPT ONE WINK" "FULL CIRCLE" "OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH"
 "WHAT'S DONE IS DONE" "NAKED TRUTH" "TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING"
 "LAUGHING STOCK" "BREADED HIS LAST" "BREAK THE ICE" "WILD GOOSE CHASE"
 "HEART OF HEARTS" "VANISH INTO THIN AIR"
 "SEEN BETTER DAYS" "MAKES YOUR HAIR STAND ON END"
 "DEAD AS A DOORNAIL" "FOR GOODNESS' SAKE" "LOVE IS BLIND"
 "GREEN EYED MONSTER" "FAIR / FOUL PLAY / PLAY" "OFF WITH HIS HEAD"
 "THE WORLD IS MY OYSTER" "BRAVE NEW WORLD" "A SORRY SIGHT"

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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.

835 West 41st
 802 West 32nd
 503 West 33rd
 927 Lamonte
 1071 West 43rd
 203 West 34th
 507 West 30th
 1066 Gardenia
 1051 Althea
 4223 Apollo
 827 Lamonte
 718 Sue Barnett
 730 West 42nd
 1010 West 41st

Happy Birthday

Caroline McLean 1st
 Claire B 2nd
 Matthew Knauth 2nd
 Alexander Zugheri 2nd
 Jane E 3rd
 Mike Heath 5th
 Alison Tucker 10th
 Kaplan Martinez 12th
 Jenny Espeseth 17th
 Mary Sharon Komarek 18th
 Deanna Zugheri 23rd
 Barbara Smith 26th
 Akira B 27th
 Jason Cunningham 27th
 Sally McDaniel 27th

Happy Anniversary

Jenny and Jason Espeseth – 7th

Congratulations To Josh McLean, who is graduating from St. Thomas High School, leaving many swim records behind him. He is headed to Florida Tech after signing to swim for them. Also to **Alex Feit**, who placed 2nd in TSR_Malibu Wakeboard competition.



Out and About

Craig and M'lissa Dilley along with **Jason Feit and Marisa Zindler** enjoyed a Willie Nelson in Concert over Memorial Day. **Cat Theriot** chaperoned the 8th grade Black Middle School trip to Six Flags. **Reese S.** lived it up during a great time at Camp Cho-Yeh. **Tony and Debbie Padon** spent a few weeks in Galveston, and then headed to Austin for their daughter Caroline's graduation from University of Texas with a BFA in Studio Arts.

Brenda and Ed de Alba along with **Teresa Coleman** and **Pam Parks** enjoyed a 3+ week trip to France with 2 of those weeks on a cabin cruiser exploring the Saone River and its canals in the Burgundy region of rural France. **Melissa Reid** had a great trip to San Miguel Allende. **Michael Beard** had great pre birthday eve with special friends in Provincetown Massachusetts.

Condolences to

Jeff Martin, on the loss of his dad, **Fines Martin**, section 3 resident.

Dian Austin, on the loss of her partner of 46 years, **Sandy Altman**.

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](mailto:terry@terryjeanes.com).

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Constable Statistics May 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.

Alarm Local - 1

Animal Humane – 1

Check /Park/School/Business - 35

Civil Process –2

Compliance Check - 2

Contract Check – 345

Disturbance/Loud Noise/Other – 3

Drugs OD Possession - 1

Follow Up – 3

Illegally Parked Vehicle - 2

Information Call - 6

Meet the Citizen – 12

Missing Person – 1

Solicitors - 1

Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 11

Terroristic Threat – 1

Traffic Initiative - 1

Traffic Stop – 22

Vacation Watch – 19

Warrant Service - 1

Welfare Check - 1



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Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

Welcome to M'lissa Dilley and husband Craig, Section 4 residents, who will now serve as vice chairs for the Garden Oaks Constable Program. Thank you for volunteering!

Have you supported the Constable Program yet?

Thank you to our current supporters. As of this writing, we are at \$80,000 in contributions to date. Looking forward to the reinstallation of the Thermometer signs soon.

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: <https://www.gardenoaks.org/go-constable/>

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**

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GOCC Meeting Minutes

Christi Hartley, Gazette Editor

June 6, 2022

The June GOCC meeting was held at Great Heights Brewing Company at 7:00 pm. President Tonya Knauth called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. She thanked the personnel from GHBC for allowing the meeting to be held in their "Barrel Room".

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Paul Vincent was not in attendance but sent financial reports and the Treasurer's Report via Knauth. She reports that all is well financially. GOCC is on target with budget and ahead of 2021 with the profit and loss statements. Current Civic Club finances are available for neighbors to review by contacting treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Committee Reports

Constable Program: Chairperson Terry Jeanes announced that she has new constable helpers- Craig and M'lissa Dilley. She said that the thermometer signs should be ready and back up soon.

The question was asked about how many constables are supported by the Civic Club. Jeanes said that there is support for one shift right now, but if funds could be raised we could contract for more shifts. The current constable fundraisers are the Wine Walk in the fall and The Wakefield Shuffle in the spring. She also stated that neighbors should use the vacation watch portion of the Constable Program. Contact constable@gardenoaks.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Neighbors, please call Constable Dispatch at 713.755.7628 with any issues.

Beautification: Pam Parks stated that the trees that were planted at Graham Park are being watered. There are still 41 of the 43 that were planted thriving right now. Discussion was had about how to water lawns in the most efficient way. Also, discussion was had about where to get trees to plant in residential or park areas.



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Garden Oaks Website: Pam Parks is revising the website to be more effective for everyone. She is adding links to the social media outlets for a better social media presence. Neighbors, if you have any questions about the area, please check the website first. www.gardenoaks.org

Citizen Patrol: Knauth announced that Mark Saranie has resigned as chair of the program. The citizen's group is very small, so there was discussion about letting the program go. Knauth is looking into any negative effects of suspending the program.

Membership: Chairperson Dian Austin was not in attendance. Knauth announced that there are 235 paid members and 282 Constable Supporters. There are 12 business members. Member Brenda d'Alba conducted the monthly raffle. Cathy Wahren won a Garden Oaks Cookbook.

GO Gazette: Editor Christi Hartley reminded everyone to turn in any ads or articles by the 15th of each month. Please send the articles, advertisements, and comments by the deadline to gazette@gardenoaks.org

Social Media: John Alvar was not present, and submitted his report through Knauth. If you have social media requests or questions, please reach out to Mr. Alvar at social@gardenoaks.org

Government Affairs/CIP: Knauth learned from the latest Construction Progress Meeting that the street improvements to Wakefield and Golf are on schedule.

New Business: No new business was discussed.

Old Business: The balance of the meeting was used for discussion on:


1) sidewalk issues. There has been an amendment to the city's sidewalk ordinance. James Elmore spoke with his interpretation of this amendment. Individuals can make comments about this change through the city's website. There is an explanation and a link at the home page of www.gardenoaks.org.

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Patricia A. Moore
MBA | CFP® | AEP®

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(meeting page 17)

2) what a Heritage District is and how it could benefit the neighborhood. **It was noted that a vote will take place at the July 5th meeting. All paid members in attendance at that meeting will be able to vote on this issue.**

Upcoming Events: 4th of July Bicycle Parade, Saturday July 2, 2022 at 9 am. Path will be published in the Gazette.

The next general meeting will be July 5th 7pm at Great Heights Brewing.



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How to Prevent a Clogged A/C Drain Line

Mitch Weigand

Your central A/C system has an outside drain line that drips water near the A/C's outside unit. As your A/C dehumidifies the indoor air, the resulting condensation (water) drains from the inside air handler/evaporator coil to the outside via the drain line. If this line gets clogged, it can cause serious water damage and potential mold.

How to prevent a clog from occurring

In the attic, there's a drip pan beneath your air handler/evaporator coil which collects possible condensate overflow. Connected to the drip pan is a pipe which needs to be clean and free of algae, so water flows easily.

To keep this line clean, pour about one-quarter cup of bleach into the pipe once a month. You can use vinegar and water instead.

How do I know if there is a problem?

If the drip pan in the attic is filled with water, you know you have a problem. Because of soaring attic temperatures during our summers, we don't normally hang out in attics. This prevents seeing the problem.

Usually, the secondary drain line can be seen at your home's eave above a bedroom window or above the sink in a bathroom. When this line begins to drip, it means that the primary drain line is clogged. Get this handled quickly by calling a licensed technician.

Also, the secondary line may be improperly installed or capped off or you just might not notice it dripping. In any case, when that dripping stops is when the problems really begin. This allows the drain pan to fill up and eventually overflow, causing water stains on the ceiling and costly repairs.

A yearly check-up is the best prevention

I recommend having a check-up on your system at least once a year. The expense is minimal compared to the cost of repair once a problem has occurred.

Mitch is the owner of AirWise TM.

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Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand

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★★★★★ “I have called on Mitch at Air Wise a couple of times and was very happy with their service and reasonable prices.

I was never in an emergency situation, and they had a few days to work me into the schedule, so the situation was different.”







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JULY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2  4th of July Bicycle Parade 8:30 Spark Park
3	4  <i>Independence Day</i>	GOCC meeting 7:00 Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycling	6	7 	8	9 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
10	11	12 Garbage, Yard Waste	13	14 GO Garden Club 7:00 pm 971 Gardenia Dr.	15 Gazette Articles Due	16 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
17	18	19 Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycling	20	21 Tree waste pickup	22	23 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
24	25	26 Garbage, Yard Waste	27	28	29	30 Farm Stand— 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
31	1	2	3	4	5	

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