



April 2023

Volume 45 Issue 04

# Garden Oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

## COMMUNITY INPUT WORKSHOP

Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

7:00 – 8:00 pm at Great Heights Brewing Co.

Join the Garden Oaks Civic Club as we host a facilitated Community Input Workshop to gather neighbor comments, concerns, complements, and direction on the future of Garden Oaks. With a goal to create a refreshed brand identity for the Garden Oaks Civic Club, this is YOUR chance to voice input and feedback about what makes Garden Oaks special and unique.

Share YOUR thoughts on the values, character, and future of YOUR Garden Oaks.

All are welcome. Grab friends and neighbors and join us at Great Heights Brewing Company on April 4th. You don't have to be a member of the Garden Oaks Civic Club to participate. YOUR voice matters.

### Notices

#### **GOCC Meeting:**

##### **Tuesday-April 4th,**

Join us to share your opinions and input on the future of our neighborhood.

Great Heights Brewing  
938 Wakefield — 7 PM  
Private Meeting Room

##### **Sunday-April 16th**

Wakefield Shuffle.  
Constable Program Fundraiser  
Stay tuned to social media.

##### **Saturday-April 29th**

North Shepherd Clean-Up Day  
Details on Page 12

Wakefield Shuffle

Constable Program Fundraiser

Sunday, April 16th

3:00 – 5:30 pm, along the 900 block of Wakefield

Join us for the 2nd annual Wakefield Shuffle. Buy a wristband and then get a drink, a shot, etc. at various participating businesses. Wristbands should be \$15 to \$20.

Details are still being worked out. Stay tuned to Houston\_GO on Facebook for the final details.

## 2023 Garden Oaks Civic Club CommUnity Partners

*Thank you to the following neighbors and neighborhood businesses who are supporting our CommUnity Partnership Program for 2023.*

*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**

**John R. Bartos, Attorney at Law**

**Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan**

**IndyQuest Properties, LLC**

**Great Heights Brewing Company**

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

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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.

## Article Submission Guidelines

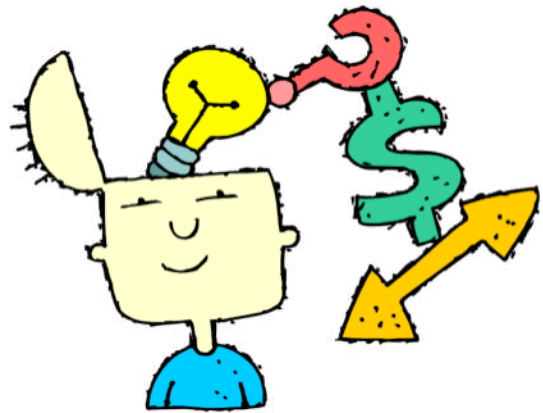
1. MS Word or text document as an attachment (not the body of the email), left justified, no headers or footers. Keep formatting to a minimum.
2. Photos need to be sent separately. You may embed photos to show where they go with the article but separate full size and resolution photos must also be provided 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.

What makes Garden Oaks unique?

What do you like least about Garden Oaks?

How would you describe Garden Oaks to a stranger?

Join the Garden Oaks Civic Club on **Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** at **7pm** at **Great Heights Brewing Co.** to answer these questions and share your opinions and input on the future of our



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## Mickey's Minute

*Mickey Morales*

By the time y'all read this post, one of the brightest stars in my world most likely will have fallen from the sky. I'm expecting that my mother, Mary Lou Morales, will have left this world and gone on to the next.

Last month I wrote about my experiences raising horses and how it molded me into the man you know today. Well, my mom also had a huge influence on me as well, quite more so than being raised in a barn, as my little brother likes to say. She was the angel who guided and protected me through my sometimes hellish young life. Through her I learned manners, decorum, and kindness. Without her, I would have never attended Texas A&M, as education was not high on my father's list of priorities.

For those who don't know, my mother was diagnosed with leukemia three days after Christmas, some nineteen years ago. I have been her keeper ever since. Some folks have asked me why I do what I do rather than design and build oilfield equipment like I used to

in my past life. This is a big reason for it and my best answer is "because I can". I don't have a spouse and have never had children. So at the time this occurred, there was no reason for me to work on building wealth and property. It became a type of ministry, if you will, like entering the priesthood.

I've said all of this to explain that if you see me at the market being rather glum instead of my usual cheerful self, you'll know why. But life goes on, and it causes me to begin to think in different directions: should I get a "real job" and close the market? I think not. I've become very fond of y'all and love making people smile by serving them tasty food. I will, however, have to start behaving myself, I've joked for these past years that the good Lord only keeps me around to care for my mom, and when she leaves this world all bets are off. If you see or hear of me doing anything foolish, please remind me that I'm no longer under His protection.

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(Mickey's Page 4)

In market news, we've maintained the status quo with Farmer Cathy, Sophia and myself coming week after week and holding our spot on a very busy Wakefield Drive. I'm a bit concerned that we may become a bit of a nuisance with the advent of the paid parking signs going up. However, we will cross that bridge when we come to it. I'm thinking of shortening our hours or perhaps opening earlier. I'm not really sure what to do if anything. We'll just have to see.

As always, "Come soon, come often and be gentle with me for a bit."



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## Garden Oaks Kids

*Sara Mathias, GOKids Admin*

GOKids celebrated Spring Break with a popcorn and movie night in the private back room of Great Heights Brewing. GOKids will also be joining Friends of American Legion Park for an Easter event with egg hunts and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Thursday, April 20, GOKids moms are getting together for a much-needed Moms' Night Out at Frankie + Flora

GOKids is a family membership-based group that helps bring a small town feel to the big city while supporting our local Garden Oaks businesses. We also offer bounce house and movie screens and projector rentals to our members.

To join: <https://gardenoakskids.cheddarup.com>



Please help American Legion Park Revitalization Committee reach their goal by donating to <https://houstonparksboard.org/american-legion-park-revitalization/>



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## Montessori Moment: Engaging the Absorbent Mind

*Milah Moes, Lower Elementary teacher at GOMM*

The initiative at Garden Oaks is Montessori. We follow the child as a guide, allowing them to pursue any path to knowledge. We show them how to discover for themselves. We guide their learning with individualized work plans, targeting the specific needs of each child. Every lesson is paired with a story and some kind of real-life objects or material that allows the child to visualize each strand of learning from the TEKS. For three years, I walk with the children of my classroom as they build knowledge from concrete visualization to abstract understanding. As a teacher who has joined this school initiative, I am devoted to furthering my education to become a strong guide for my students.

My role as a Lower Elementary guide is to partner with each of the children in my class family to pave a path towards success, with each child defining success with their own words. Within my classroom, I teach each

child with love, social justice, and SEL (social and emotional learning) in mind. Every lesson is given with the intent to show the child that they too have a voice and purpose. I collaborate not only with my fellow colleagues but also with the community in order to ensure the best road possible for each child. I participate in weekly planning meetings to collaborate with members of my team on campus. I also meet bi-weekly with a mentor teacher from our sister Montessori school, Baker Montessori. We discuss the Montessori curriculum and the alignment with the TEKS. I also collaborate with the families of my students. Communication is left open so that parent advocates for Montessori education can actively participate in lesson ideas and volunteering with classroom activities.

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(Montessori page 7)

I have found joy in observing the improvements of the classroom, as I strengthen my skills to be the best guide for my students. The children within my class family exhibit peace by acting as counselors for one another. They regulate their environment with class jobs and practical life tasks that ensure an orderly and safe environment. They are able to clearly express concerns and converse with each other in order to resolve conflicts. They are excited to share in daily class meetings and work together on classroom projects. The children can research and explore new ideas in collaborative groups and on their own. They are young only in age, with ideas bigger than any other.

This initiative will continue to improve with each passing year. The dedication from teachers and families who believe in Montessori will only make us stronger. As I continue my own education and training, I will continue to learn new ways to follow the child as Maria Montessori did. I will continue to bring adaptable creativity to my classroom. I will

continue best practices to blend Montessori and public education. The child will leave my classroom after three years with me possessing an unstoppable voice that will be seen through their curiosity, passion, and independence.



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# Constable Program

*Terry Jeanes, Program Chair M'lissa & Craig Dilley –Vice Chairs*

**Wakefield Shuffle. Constable Program Fundraiser, Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> .... Stay tuned to social media.**

**Have you supported the Constable Program yet?** We need you! The 2023 campaign is in full force. Pay your dues via the mail OR pay online. Payment of at least \$250 per household will get you a GO Constable Supporter sign. That's a mere 65 cents per day!

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

**If you need a new 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:** <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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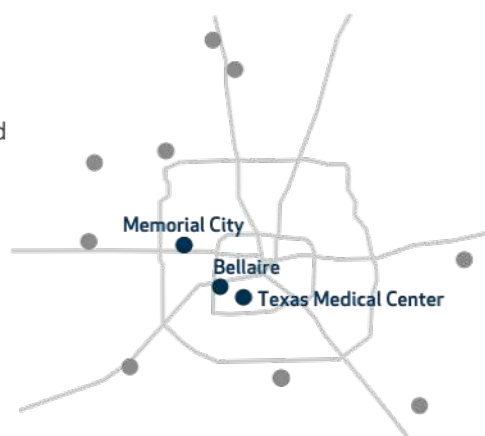
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# Heard Under the Oak Tree

*Terry Jeanes*

## Welcome, New Neighbors!

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

1006 West 42nd

515 West 30th

511 West 30th

1054 West 41st

3202 Lawrence

1046 West 43rd

1079 West 41st

971 Lamonte

1411 Sue Barnett

874 West 41st

## Happy Birthday

Tony D'Amico 1st

Kiran B 2nd

Devin Hunter 6th

Kylie S 7th

Keith Kostelecky 9th

Reid S 9th

Melissa Neiser 10th

Mansi Patel 12th

Daniel Sanborn 12th

Avi Velez 14th

Anna M 15th

Lily Bowman 18th

Leyton C 21st

Leslie Ryan 21st

Nicholas M 26th

Jim Tucker 28th

Wade M 30th

## Happy Anniversary

Tina Sabuco & Shellye Arnold 6th

Congratulations to **Missy Alwais** on receiving the President's Award for the Houston Market IHeartMedia, as well as the CEO Award. Also congrats to **Tony D'Amico & Summer Toomey** on their recent engagement while vacationing in Tulum Mexico. And kudos to **Gretchen Seghers**, who placed 4th in a recent solo voice competition, with a large number of entrants. This happened without voice lessons or participating in choir, as she just loves to sing.



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## Out and About

**Julie Sherber** and her daughters took a trip on the Carnival Sunshine, including stops in Grand Turk and Nassau. The **Seghers clan** were off for a Spring Break ski trip. The **Weltin boys** continued their National Park adventures visiting Guadalupe Mountains & Carlsbad Caverns National Parks with stops in Cisco, Midland, Odessa, Pecos, and El Paso. **Caroline Stender**, along with her daughters, attended a destination wedding at the Cabo Ritz Carlton. **Angie Lane** chaperoned seven 5th and 6th graders, including her daughter, on a school trip to Camp Allen. It was a busy March for **Katherine Stinson, Katy Kyle, Scott Matney, and Terry Jeanes**, all representing Garden Oaks in their committee work on Breeders Greeters at Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

**Special Thoughts to Missy Alwais** in the loss of her uncle, Steve.

*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).*

## New to the Neighborhood?

We are glad you are here!

If you'd like a Welcome Packet,  
please email  
[membership@gardenoaks.org](mailto:membership@gardenoaks.org).



# North Shepherd District Clean Up Day

**Saturday, April 29, 2023**  
**9 am to Noon**

*Pam Parks, Beautification Chair*

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a trash pick-up along North Shepherd. We plan to work on several areas between the North Loop access road west bound and West Montgomery Road.

Meet us in the Sears Parking lot near the south entrance off of Garden Oaks Blvd. At-Large Councilmember Dr. Letitia Plummer has secured support for the effort in the form of dumpsters and safety equipment for volunteers. Youngsters may earn community service hours as needed, so invite them too.

While it's not absolutely necessary, we would appreciate an RSVP if you plan to help. RSVP to [beautification@gardenoaks.org](mailto:beautification@gardenoaks.org) on or before April 17.

The North Shepherd District (formerly known as North Shepherd Business Alliance) seeks to create community for the residents, businesses, schools and churches in an area bounded on the south by 610, on the west by White Oak Bayou, on the north by Victory and on the east by I-45.

## Constable Statistics February 2023

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 – 1	Information Call – 1
Animal Humane - 1	Meet the Citizen – 8
Burglary of Motor Vehicle - 1	Solicitors – 2
Check /Park/School/Business – 27	Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 10
Civil Process - 7	Traffic Hazard - 1
Contract Check – 192	Traffic Stop – 8
Disturbance/Loud Noise – 2	Vacation Watch – 25
Follow Up - 1	Warrant Service - 1
Indecent Exposure - 1	Welfare Check - 2

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# Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

*Beth Jackson, Secretary*

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at Great Heights Brewing.

The March general meeting began with 30 minutes of social time. President Tonya Knauth called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. There were no relevant committee reports, and with the absence of Treasurer Paul Vincent, the organization’s financial reports will be posted to the website for review.

Several guests were in attendance, including Houston City Council District H candidate Mario Castillo. With the recent redistricting, parts of Garden Oaks now fall within District H which is currently represented by Councilmember Karla Cisneros. A representative from State Representative Penny Morales Shaw’s office joined the meeting as well.

The agenda moved next to the evening’s speaker, Tim Weltin, on behalf of Waltrip High School. Waltrip is the zoned HISD high school for most of Garden Oaks. Neighbor, parent, and College and Career Readiness

Advisor at Waltrip, Mr. Weltin’s enthusiasm for the high school was palatable.

He shared many of the recent successes of students and teachers at Waltrip. Did you know that 100% of Waltrip’s 2022 graduating class of 400+ students applied and were accepted to college? Waltrip is one of only a few Houston-area schools – public and private – to offer the AP Capstone Diploma program. The AP Capstone program was created by The College Board and is highly regarded and attractive college admission offices. Waltrip currently offers 22 AP courses.

Principal Rhona Honore’ moved from Frank Black Middle School to Waltrip this school year. Mr. Weltin sang her praises and commented on the dynamism at Frank Black translating to Waltrip in the coming years. Before turning the program over to Ms. Honore, he wrapped up by encouraging Garden

(continued page 14)




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(Minutes page 13)

Oaks neighbors to become “Rambassadors” for our neighborhood high school by sharing good news, successes, and opportunities at and for the Waltrip Rams.

Principal, Rhonda Honore’ is in her 6th week at Waltrip after her successful helm at FBMS. One of her goals at Waltrip is to make it the school of choice for the Garden Oaks and Oak Forest communities. The high school is in a re-branding mode right now, focused on showcasing all of the great things that are happening at Waltrip. A weekly newsletter that highlights the work and efforts, and successes of Waltrip students, “Happenings at Waltrip,” is available to Garden Oaks residents. Email Tim Weltin at [TWELTIN@houstonisd.org](mailto:TWELTIN@houstonisd.org) to sign up for the newsletter.

In the coming months, Ms. Honore’ will be visiting feeder schools in the area – Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet and Oak Forest Elementary – to share the

good news about Waltrip and begin seeding the next generation of Rams. Waltrip’s PTO is actively seeking volunteers from the community. Volunteering on campus is a great way for incoming students and families to get a sense of the Waltrip culture.

Following the evening’s guest speakers, the February GOCC minutes were approved. Thank you to Christi Hartley for a wonderful GO Gazette that happens EVERY month, and to Brenda de Alba, Beth Jackson, Dian Austin, and Angela Winston for all you do to pull the Gazette together.

Under Old Business, Tonya shared that the Golf Street road construction project has moved north of 43rd Street in its active construction. There are materials still on the road south of 43rd Street, but the construction has finished. The crew is running a little behind schedule, but they expect to move faster now that they are north of 43rd Street. By end of March, expect asphalt and sod to be laid south of 43rd Street

(continued page 15)



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(minutes page 14)

on Golf. Issues with road construction? The fastest route to a solution is via Tonya Knauth to the crews on the ground. Email [president@gardenoaks.com](mailto:president@gardenoaks.com).

Moving to New Business on the agenda, the Wakefield Shuffle is set for Sunday afternoon, April 16th. Mark your calendars for this fun and family-friendly event supporting the Constable Program and the businesses and neighbors along Wakefield.

The anticipated community input session will be Tuesday, April 4th at 7:00 pm. CORE Design Studio will facilitate the community input session with a goal to engage neighbors and Garden Oaks residents with a platform to share feedback and input about our community. Please invite friends and neighbors --- you don't have to be a GOCC member to participate. One outcome of the community input session will be to create brand identify that beautifully represents Garden Oaks. CORE will be back in early summer to present the brand identity and ideas for rolling it out in our neighborhood.

Interested in getting your hands dirty? Contact Pam Parks to volunteer for pocket park workdays this spring, [beautification@gardenoaks.com](mailto:beautification@gardenoaks.com).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.



Always  
Going the  
**Extra Mile**

As an avid runner of Garden Oaks, Evan is always willing to go the extra mile. Whether crunching numbers or providing input on the latest real estate trends and hottest neighborhoods, rest assured that Evan will use his analytical expertise and unwavering commitment to guide his partners through the changing market. A personal approach that puts your first.



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## The HTX Collects App

*Excerpted from [houstontx.gov/solidwaste](http://houstontx.gov/solidwaste)*

The Houston Solid Waste Management Department has launched [HTX Collects](#), a mobile app that will allow residents to stay better connected with the City's waste and recycling collection programs.

The Solid Waste Management Department collects curbside service for over 395,000 residential homes within the city limits. With both garbage (black can) and recycling (green can) as the core operations for curbside collections, the mobile app will help residents keep track of weekly services, updates, and collection delays.

[HTX Collects](#), will include collection reminders for garbage, recycling, yard waste and tree/junk waste specific to their service address. The mobile app will also send a reminder to residents of their collection days.

This user-friendly mobile app has many features available to residents, giving them the ability to stay up to date on the department's core services. Residents can sign up for service alerts and know what goes where. This is a seamless way to stay connected with the City's waste and recycling programs. Download the app or visit the website [HoustonRecycles.org](http://HoustonRecycles.org) to get more information. Residents can find and download the mobile app for Apple and Android devices via the Apple App Store or Google Play Store by searching for the keywords Houston Trash and Recycling. We encourage residents to use the following features of the new app:

(continued page 17)



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(HTX page 16)

- **Collection Calendar:** Trash, Recycling, Yard Waste, Junk/Tree Waste services. Set reminders and receive alerts via email, push notifications, and phone call.
- **Waste Wizard:** Searchable solid waste directory, curbside services, and drop-off location information.
- **Waste Sorting Game:** Fun, interactive educational tool to engage, challenge and change recycling behavior.
- Those who do not have an Apple or Android device can visit our website [HoustonRecycles.org](http://HoustonRecycles.org) and search their home address in the My Schedule tool. They can also:
  - Sign up to receive waste collection reminders by email or phone call.
  - Download their collection schedule into their iCal, Google calendar, or Microsoft Outlook calendar.
  - Print their personalized collection schedule.
  - Residents can also search the Waste Wizard on [HoustonRecycles.org](http://HoustonRecycles.org) to learn how to recycle or dispose of materials properly.



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### 2023 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](http://gardenoaks.org)**

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

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

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

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

# Mini Splits - Get Comfortable One Room at a Time Part One

*Mitch Weigand*

## The history of mini splits

At the end of WW II, Americans introduced ducted, central AC systems and window units to Japan. These proved unsuitable because of limited interior space and the close proximity of buildings to each other. With Japan's densely populated urban areas, a more compact, noiseless A/C system was required. Additionally, they had to be very efficient as energy costs were about 5X higher than the US.

Japan's solution was a split-type, ductless system: quiet, powerful and space conscious. This form of AC provided an energy-efficient way to cool or heat a home one room at a time. In 1954, Mitsubishi began producing air conditioners, and in 1968, it introduced the wall mounted split-type ductless design known now as Mr. Slim.

## No duct work needed

Mini splits are perfect for spaces where duct work is impossible to install or noisy window units are not practical. The term "ductless" means that no duct work is involved. The system is comprised of two units - a slim-line outdoor condenser and an indoor air handler.

The condenser supplies freon to the air handler through lines which run through a 3" opening in the wall and into the back of the unit. The air handler draws in air from the room through a grill at the top and disperses newly-conditioned air back into the room through the bottom grill. Some models provide special filters which promote additional humidity control and filtration.

Energy efficiency is one of the most important benefits mini splits offer, being about 10X more efficient than traditional central A/C systems and 4X more efficient than standard window units. In addition to outstanding efficiency, mini splits save you money via zone control.

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

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



**Here's what our customers say about us:**

**“I love my Mitsubishi mini-split!”** *Penny L., Oak Forest*

★★★★★ "Hi Mitch, I just wanted to tell you how much I love my Mitsubishi "Mr. Slim" mini-split! I can heat and cool my whole two-bedroom, one-bath house with this incredibly quiet little unit.

My Reliant Energy balanced billing has gone down twice from the original \$145/month to \$103/month, and now it's \$83/month!"



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*Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand*

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# APRIL 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
2 Palm Sunday	3	4 GOCC Meeting 7 pm	5 Passover	6	7 Good Friday	8 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
9 Easter	10	11 Garbage, Yard Waste, and Recycling	12	13	14	15 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
16 Wakefield Shuffle 3 to 5:30PM	17	18 Tax Day	19	20 Junk Waste Pickup	21 Eid al-Fitr	22 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
23	24	25 Garbage, Yard Waste, and Recycling	26	27	28	29 N. Shepherd Clean Up Day 9 to noon
30						

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