



September 2023

Volume 45 Issue 09

Garden Oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

Introducing the Azalea Street Beer & Wine Extravaganza!

Emily Stephens, Social Chair

Save the Date! October 21st from 4:30-7:00 PM will be the inaugural Azalea Street Beer & Wine Extravaganza. What is that, you may ask? It's the new fall Constable Program fundraiser!

The Wine Walk, which has previously served this purpose, has grown interest over the years, and we have decided to transition to a larger venue: Azalea Street!

Join us for wine tastings, beer samples, and delicious bites provided by local businesses and generous neighbors. Tickets will go on sale September 1st for \$100 each on Eventbrite.

Purchase tickets at <https://azaleastreet.eventbrite.com>

Notices

Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 5th, 7pm
Great Heights Brewing
Discussion of new Constable Program Fundraiser

GOCC is working with other neighborhood organizations to co-host candidate forums for upcoming local elections. Stay tuned for details.

National Neighbors' Night Out

October 3rd, 6 pm - Your Block

Constable Fundraiser Beer & Wine Extravaganza

Saturday, October 21st
4:30 to 7pm
800 block of Azalea

**AZALEA
STREET BEER
AND WINE
Extravaganza**

OCTOBER 21ST

4:30PM - 7:00 PM

GOCC CONSTABLE FUNDRAISER

More info coming soon!
21 years and older only

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.

Terry Jeanes, Realtor – Led Well Realty

John R. Bartos, Attorney at Law

Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan

IndyQuest Properties, LLC

Great Heights Brewing Company

Nationwide Tools & Supplies

Erin Thole, CNHP – Thole Wellness, LLC

Central City Air

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986 Gardenia president@gardenoaks.org

Vice President – Kevin David 713 686 5903
1002 Althea vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Treasurer – Paul Vincent 713 834 7248
742 West 41st treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Secretary – OPEN

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Constable Program – Terry Jeanes
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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.

2023 Azalea Street Extravaganza Table Hosts

Our annual Constable Program fundraiser would not be possible without the generosity of our table hosts. Each table host provides at least a case of wine (or wines), or other beverages, and foods at their own expense. Most of these folks have been repeat hosts for many, many years. Thank you to these generous neighbors and neighborhood businesses. We appreciate you! Thank you for supporting our Constable Patrol Program. We couldn't do it without you!

- "Aged to Perfection" – Pam Parks & Teresa Coleman, Elisa Cuellar & Knox Wright
- Aitu Pham Taube, State Farm Insurance Agency, and Ginny Ledwell, Led Well Realty
- Alison Spencer, Spencer Law
- Coldwell Banker Realty, Goad Family
- Craig & M'lissa Dilley
- GO Red Hot Chili Peppers
Matt & Erica Gannon
- Dru & Margie Neikirk
- Kip & Kari Noser
- Heidi & Stuart Arouty
- Heights Margaritas
- Richard & Tori Orozco
- Scott Miller

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2023 Azalea Street Extravaganza Sponsors

Cash sponsorships are a big part of our fundraising! Please thank these neighbors and patronize the businesses who support Garden Oaks. We have a lot of sponsorship opportunities still available.

Sponsorship benefits are outlined elsewhere in this month's newsletter, and include event tickets, signage, Gazette ads, listings in the monthly newsletter, and on the website.

Sponsorships may be purchased online at <https://www.gardenoaks.org/azalea-street/>

Diamond Sponsors (\$2500)

- High Performance Home Systems
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- Tyra Properties
- Verde Wealth Group, LLC
Geordie M.Hrdlicka, J.D., LL.M.,CFP, Garden Oaks Resident

Gold Sponsors (\$500)

- Cesar and Liz Maldonado
- CTC Contractors LLC
- Optimus
- Terry Jeanes, Led Well Realty
- The Dilley Family
- The House Manager – Cat Theriot
- Tonya L. Knauth, Attorney, PLLC

Silver Sponsors (\$300)

- Alleanza Custom Homes
- The Zindler-Feit Household

2023 Azalea Street Extravaganza Sponsorship Benefits

Diamond Sponsor (\$2500 Cash Contribution)

- INDIVIDUAL sign at the entrance on Azalea
- 8 tickets to the event (value \$800)
- Garden Oaks Gazette Full Page Ad (value \$180)
- Recognition in the GO Gazette through June 2024
- Your logo/link on the Garden Oaks website

Platinum Plus (\$1500) Cash Contribution

- INDIVIDUAL sign at the entrance on Azalea
- 6 tickets to the event (value \$600)
- Garden Oaks Gazette ½ page ad (value \$110)
- Recognition in the GO Gazette through June 2024
- Your logo/link on the Garden Oaks website

Platinum Sponsor (\$1000 Cash Contribution)

- INDIVIDUAL sign at the entrance on Azalea
- Four tickets to the event (value \$400)
- Garden Oaks Gazette ½ page ad (value \$110)
- Recognition in the GO Gazette through June 2024
- Your logo/link on the Garden Oaks website

Gold Sponsor (\$500 Cash Contribution)

- SHARED signage with other Gold Sponsors
- Garden Oaks Gazette Ad - 2 ¼" x 2 3/8" (value: \$60)
- Two tickets to the event (value \$200)
- Recognition in the GO Gazette through June 2024
- Your link/logo on the Garden Oaks website

Silver Sponsor (\$300 Cash Contribution)

- SHARED signage with other Silver Sponsors
- One ticket to the event (value \$100)
- Recognition in the GO Gazette through June 2024
- Your link/logo on the Garden Oaks website

Sponsorships can be purchased at gardenoaks.org.
All proceeds are used to fund the Garden Oaks Constable Program.

Questions? Constable@gardenoaks.org

Garden Club Field Trip - September 16th

The Garden Oaks Garden Club invites interested neighbors to tour a restored prairie operated by the Coastal Prairie Conservancy (CPC) in Waller, Texas. The Indiangrass Preserve includes 55 acres of newly restored prairie, and two 1.5-mile hiking trails. This is one of several CPC locations and includes the Native Seed Nursery, where seeds may be purchased.

The tour will take place on Saturday, September 16th, and will begin at 9am.

The cost of the tour is \$5.00 per person, payable by cash or check on the day of the tour. A minimum of 10 people will be required for the guided tour, so please notify us by Monday, September 11th if you plan to join us. To guarantee your place, send an email to: gardenclub@gardenoaks.org with your name and a cell phone number.

Background: Coastal areas in Texas and Louisiana were once covered with plants that had evolved for centuries to survive in this region of frequent floods, droughts and even fires. This prairie ecosystem served as a valuable food

source for our native pollinators, and the deep roots of prairie grasses helped detain and filter stormwater runoff to prevent flooding. Today less than 1% of the coastal prairie remains. Visit the Indiangrass preserve to see an example of this site that has recovered from the agriculture and urbanization impacts and is now protected.

Meeting Place: Meet at the Art Park (Sue Barnett/ 43rd Street Park) at 7:45 AM to coordinate transportation to Coastal Prairie Conservancy, located at 31950 Hebert Road, Waller, TX.

SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendars for the Garden Club spring pollinator event on Sunday, April 14, 2024, that will take place in the Art Park (Sue Barnett at 43rd St.). More details will be published in the Gazette as we get closer to the day of the event.



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Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

Out of the frying pan and into the fire - welcome to September in Houston. I used to fool myself into thinking that the summer temperatures moderated right about now, but I was very wrong. Based on yesterday's record breaking 104 degree temp, I'm hoping the temp will go downhill from here.

In other market news, we've finally been joined by our new Indian food vendor, Indo-Pac, a wife and husband team that produce menu items with an Indian and Pakistani slant. As I've said before, the great thing about these guys is that they bring a lot to the table with all the food categories: vegan, vegetarian and also items for us omnivores. Sophia is also back from her overseas travels and ready to treat us to that homemade granola that's been so popular and her baked goods for at least another school year.

Farmer Cathy's hens that have survived this brutal summer should begin to start laying in earnest again by the end of the month, which means they'll need your continued support. It's important to remember that even though the cage/free range eggs are a bit cheaper at the grocery store, those eggs are laid by birds without being caged but with five to seven hens in a bunch, and still crowded into the same enclosed barn. The free-range birds are given access out of said barn via tiny doors spaced at around fifty feet apart. Chickens are flock animals and rarely go outside because they are loathe to be alone. On top of all of that, the eggs sold from there are not fresh, most likely three months or more old.

In contrast, the eggs from Sullivan's Happy Heart Farm were laid, washed and packaged the week they're sold at the market. And Farmer Cathy is the only human that has handled your eggs.

As always, "Come soon, come often and get some yummy food."



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Garden Oaks Kids

Sara Mathias, GOKids Admin

GOKids is super proud of our Kidpreneurs, Amiya and Mallory! Their business, Painted Butterflies, had a booth at Eleanora's Market and sold paintings and baked goods. They donated \$120 (75% of their earnings) to the Oak Forest Foster Closet and the Maui Strong Fund! Their earnings were spent at the Farmers' Market helping other small businesses! We love to see our GOKids members give back to the community and support small businesses.

GOKids and Wakefield Crowbar also enjoyed making lunch bags for Kids' Meals in late August. We look forward to our upcoming Dads & Donuts gathering and our Halloween Party at the American Legion Hall. If you are interested in joining us, please sign up at <https://gardenoaskids.cheddarup.com>



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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.

1058 Althea
1403 Sue Barnett
3110 Lawrence
703 West 42nd
1039 West 41st

Happy Birthday

Belated Wishes to Jay K. (8/4) and Jones Bowman (8/6)

September Birthdays

Rita Hartman 8th
Gretchen S 10th
Sylvia Escobedo 16th
Jacopo W 20th
Allison Mattingly 21st
Candice Croker 25th

Happy Anniversary

Trent and Megan Salch 5th
Mike and Diane Heath 7th
Phil Ramirez and Gina Pecoraro 7th
Kristine Tolentino & John Magsipok 18th

Congratulations to

Julie Sherber, recognized as a "Celebrated Hero" with Celebrated Experiences in their travel advisor recognition program. She's in the top 10% of travel advisors who work with Celebrated Experiences worldwide.

New to the Neighborhood?

We are glad you are here!

If you'd like a Welcome Packet,
please email
membership@gardenoaks.org.



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Out and About

Elisa Cuellar and Knox Wright enjoyed Breckenridge CO. It was birding in Southern AZ for **John and Cindy Bartos**. The **Goad family** visited Snowmass and Glenwood Springs. **Blanche Ragsdale and Margie Hesse** visited Stockholm, Sweden.

It was another camping adventure for **Heather McKeown** and **crew** at Garner State Park. **Sandra O'Gyunn** had a hilarious time at the Galveston Opera House and Dixie's Tupperware Party. **Georgia Lister** was in the crowd at Miller Outdoor Theatre.

It was a huge reunion weekend in Surfside for **Terry Jeanes** with 19 UH sorority sisters.

Julie Sherber and girls went to Puerto Vallarta. **Caroline McLean** travelled to Tupelo Mississippi, with a special treat seeing son **Josh** swim for his university. **The Taubes** vacationed 2 weeks in Europe.

The Dilleys enjoyed some well-deserved family time at Pearl Haus Canyon Lake. **Alisha Cunningham** had a great time with friends in West Palm Beach. **Scott Matney, Katy Kyle, Kat Stinson, and Terry Jeanes** celebrated the rookie kick off recruiting season with fellow HLSR Breeders' Greeters committee members. **The Seghers** had a fabulous time in Montana.

Special Thoughts to

The **Knauth family**, in the recent loss of Tonya's father.
The family of **Craig Kramer**, in his recent passing.
The family of **Steve Sawyer**, in his recent passing.

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.

Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

Dian Austin, Membership Chair

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 @ Great Heights Brewing

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Vice President Kevin David after a half hour of social time. President Tonya Knauth was not in attendance.

The minutes of the June GOCC meeting were approved (no meeting in July). Treasurer Paul Vincent handed out his report.

Our guest speaker was Harris County District Attorney, Kim Ogg. She discussed her focus of rehabbing non-violent offenders, while focusing primarily on more violent crimes in an effort to keep the community safe. She held a Q/A session afterwards.

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee then spoke about her candidacy for Houston Mayor in the coming November elections.

NEW BUSINESS

GOCC is working with other neighborhood groups to put

together some candidate forums for the upcoming elections.

A committee is being formed to plan a fall Constable Program fundraiser. If interested, contact constable@gardenoaks.org

OLD BUSINESS

GOCC is looking for a new GOCC Secretary. Please contact president@gardenoaks.org if interested.


The evening's raffle winner, Shawn Spear, won an Amazon gift card donated by Mario Castillo, candidate for City Council District H. Congratulations!

The next GOCC meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, at 7:00 pm at Great Heights Brewing.

With no further business, the meeting of the Garden Oaks Civic Club concluded at 8:35 pm.

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Constable Program

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

JOIN US FOR OUR NEW FALL CONSTABLE FUNDRAISER OCTOBER 21st

SAVE THE DATE - NATIONAL / NEIGHBORS NIGHT OUT – Tues October 3rd. – If you are going to host a block gathering, please advise constable@gardenoaks.org so Precinct One offices stop in.

Have you supported the Constable Program yet? We need you! You can pay online at 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!
<https://www.gardenoaks.org/go-constable/>

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?

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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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13 Ways to Build Your Humane Backyard

The Humane Society of the United States

Every day, more and more wildlife habitat is lost to the spread of development. Give a little back by building your own humane backyard!

You can make any outdoor space into a safe place for wildlife, people, and pets to coexist.

To get started, check out our tips (you might already have some of the basics down):

1. Provide water

Whether it's winter, summer or somewhere in between, wild animals need reliable sources of fresh water. It can be as simple as setting up a birdbath, or, if you have the room, you can create a small pond.

2. Offer natural food sources

Native plants, bushes and trees are usually the best foods you can give wildlife. You can also supplement your offerings with bird feeders, especially in winter.

3. Skip the lawn chemicals

Avoid using chemical-laden fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides that can be harmful not only to wildlife, but to pets and children too.

4. Make your windows bird-safe

If you're attracting birds with food and water, make sure they're not going to be flying into your windows. Find ideas for making your windows bird-safe on our website at humanesociety.org.

5. Shrink your lawn a little

If you can, stop mowing part of your lawn; it's less work for you (and a better habitat for wildlife).

6. Build a brush pile

Turn leaves, tree limbs, and other yard debris into a simple brush pile to provide extra shelter for wild animals.

7. Be a friend to bees

As pollinators, bees are vital to farms and gardens, but their numbers are on the decline. You can help by providing safe, healthy habitat for bees. No need to fear bees—leave them alone and they'll leave you alone too!

(continued on page 14)



(continued from page 13)

8. Put up a bat house

Bats pollinate plants, disperse seeds and help keep the insect population in check. Return the favor by giving them a safe place to roost. Find more information on bat houses on our website.

9. Make your swimming pool safe

Backyard pools can be deadly for wildlife. Take a few precautions to make your pool safer for wild animals. Pool drownings are tragic, because they are preventable. Wild animals and even pets can find themselves in a pool with no way to escape.

Wild animal babies are particularly at risk; their curiosity about these neighborhood bodies of water can take them perilously close to the edge.

10. Help out bugs (they're animals too!)

Insects make up 70% of the animal kingdom and most of them are harmless or even helpful! Attract beneficial insects to your yard or garden and look for eco- and animal-friendly approaches to insect control.

11. Keep cats inside

Keep cats inside for their own safety as well as that of wildlife.

12. Change with the seasons

As cold weather approaches, let leaves remain where they fall (or rake them under trees and bushes) to create habitat for insects. Also leave dead flowers and plant stalks when possible: Seedheads provide food for birds, while insects may overwinter in hollow stalks.

13. Find humane solutions to any wildlife problems

Birds, bats, and squirrels outdoors are great—not so much when they're living in your attic. Refer to our website. We have effective, humane solutions to any wildlife problems you might encounter



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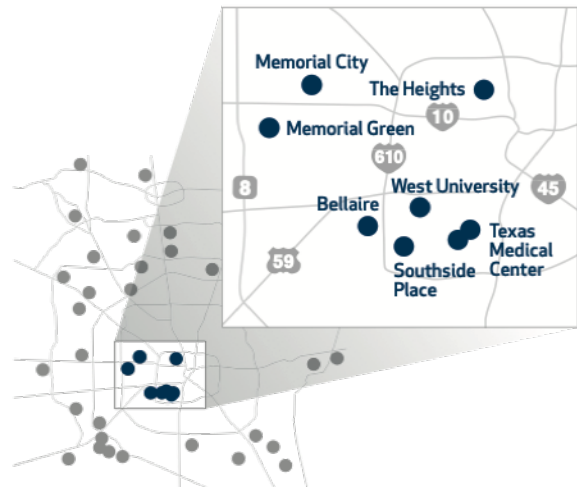


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**AZALEA
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Extravaganza

OCTOBER 21ST

4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

GOCC CONSTABLE FUNDRAISER

More info coming soon!
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(Continued from page 19)

Should I switch to an R-410a system now?

If you need to purchase a new A/C system, you're in luck. Not only is it more environmentally friendly, but R-410A also has a higher cooling capacity compared to R-22 and superior heat exchange properties. This results in greater efficiency overall within a more compact system that uses less refrigerant compared to outdated R-22 equipment.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise™.



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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**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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

An Era in Freon Is Coming to an End

How the Evolution from R-22 to R-410a Refrigerant Affects You

Mitch Weigand

If you've had to repair or replace your AC system recently, you've probably heard about alternative refrigerants (commonly known as freon) in use today. These new products generate fewer chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and are designed to have less impact on the earth's ozone layer. While some of them go by different names such as Prozone or Puron, they are all R-410A. Today, R-410A is the dominant refrigerant and plays a crucial role in our current and future A/C systems.

In 2010, the EPA enacted policy requiring all A/C manufacturers to stop producing systems which use ozone-depleting R-22 refrigerant. For decades, R-22 refrigerant has been the standard in the HVAC industry.

What does the R-22 phase-out mean to consumers?


If your A/C system develops a leak, replacing the freon will probably be necessary. If it uses R-22 refrigerant, your system


can be recharged with R-22 up to January 1, 2020. That is if it can be found.

R-22 is becoming more and more scarce, and the price has risen from \$35 to over \$200 per pound in less than the past decade. After January 1, refrigerant manufacturers must stop producing R-22 and produce only R-410A refrigerant.

The Clean Air Act does not allow any refrigerant to be vented into the atmosphere during installation, service or retirement of equipment. Therefore, R-22 refrigerant must be recovered and reclaimed to be processed to the same purity levels as new R-22 or be destroyed. After 2020, servicing R-22 systems will have to rely on recycled refrigerants. This means the price of R-22 will continue to skyrocket.

(Continued on page 17)






Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand

Here's what our customers say about us:

“What other company would make a 1:00am service call on Memorial Day weekend?” *Juan M., Garden Oaks*

★★★★★ “After Air Wise replaced one of my A/C's, I noticed a water stain on the bathroom ceiling. Although the leak was not A/C related, Mitch arrived at 1:00am, put a pan under the leaky pipe and returned the next morning with his plumber to repair it.

What other company would do that on Memorial Day weekend?”



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SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
3	4 Labor Day	5 GOCC Civic Club Meeting 7:00	6	7	8	9 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
10 Grandparents' Day	11 Patriot Day	12 Garbage, Yard Waste, Recycling	13	14	15 Rosh Hashana	16 Garden Club Field Trip 9:00
17	18	19 Garbage, & Yard Waste	20	21 Tree Waste pickup	22	23 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield
24 Yom Kippur	25	26 Garbage, Yard Waste, Recycling	27	28	29	30 Farm Stand 9am to 1 pm 949 Wakefield

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