



garden oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

February 2024

Volume 46 Issue 2

Meet the New GOCC Officers

Paul Vincent, GOCC Vice President

Our family moved to the Garden Oaks area in 2006 and enjoyed the community as our kids went to school at GOMM. We left for a few years to live and work in West Africa, and came back just before COVID. We moved into a great house across the street from the school and our kids returned to GOMM and Frank Black MS. I served GOCC as Treasurer for several years and found it was a great opportunity to re-engage with the neighborhood. As Vice President, I look forward to strengthening the Civic Club's relationships with area schools and continuing to support our neighborhood.



Upcoming Events

GOCC Meeting:

Feb 6th 7:00pm

Great Heights Brewing

Private meeting room

Discussion: Rebranding

Update

Brian Rabe, GOCC Treasurer

My family and I moved to Garden Oaks at the end of 2021 when we returned to Houston from living in Budapest, Hungary for a few years. We previously lived in a townhouse in the Washington Heights area, but knew we wanted to move 'north' to a more traditional neighborhood to raise our small kids upon repatriating.

We fell in love with our Section 1 bungalow 'online', touring it only through pictures and FaceTime until final closing. I have been an active member of my HOA/Civic Club in various locations since 2005, and I look forward to getting more involved with GOCC through this role, meeting all of you, and continuing to serve our wonderful community.



(continued on page 3)

2024 Garden Oaks Civic Club CommUnity Partners

Thank you to the following neighbors and neighborhood businesses who are supporting our new CommUnity Partnership Program for 2024.

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

Terry Jeanes, Realtor – Led Well Realty
Har.com/TerryJeanes

John R. Bartos, Attorney at Law
Htownlaw.com

Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan
Gardenoakshomes.com

Central City Air
Centralcityair.com

Great Heights Brewing Company
Ghbrewing.com

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.

Civic Club Officers

President – Mike Stephens 303.886.1870
president@gardenoaks.org

Vice President – Paul Vincent 713.834.7249
vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Treasurer – Brian Rabe
treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Secretary – Deepak Khosla 832.788.7201
secretary@gardenoaks.org

Committee Chairs

Beautification – Pam Parks 713 686 7728
beautification@gardenoaks.org

Constable Program – Terry Jeanes
281 236 8033
constable@gardenoaks.org

Membership – Dian Austin 713 691 6505
membership@gardenoaks.org

Social Media – John Alvar 713 775 0365
social@gardenoaks.org

Webmaster – Pam Parks 713 686 7728
webmaster@gardenoaks.org

Social Events - Emily Stephens 913 526 5160
goSocial@gardenoaks.org

Gazette Contacts

Editor – Christi Hartley 806-319-0853
gazette@gardenoaks.org

Advertising Director – Brenda de Alba
713-705-0886
gazetteads@gardenoaks.org

Delivery Coordinator – Angela Winston
832-656-8648
gazettedelivery@gardenoaks.org

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.

(Continued from page 1)

Deepak Khosla, GOCC Secretary

I have called this vibrant city home for over 45 years, having arrived from India via Zambia. Recognizing the unique advantages of urban living, I chose to reside closer to downtown to navigate the bustling cityscape with ease. Over three decades ago, my wife Joan and I embraced the community spirit of Shepherd Park, just north of here, and later found our haven in the picturesque Garden Oaks neighborhood in 2010.

As we transition into the empty nest phase with our sons Quinn and Griffin, along with our loyal canine companion Misty, I am keenly focused on giving back to the neighborhood that has enriched our lives. Despite my demanding work schedule, I am enthusiastic about contributing to the growth and enhancement of our beloved Garden Oaks community. I firmly believe that small efforts from each of us can lead to significant positive changes, and I am dedicated to supporting our officers, committee chairs, and the community at large in elevating the image of Garden Oaks Civic Club in Houston. Here's to making our community an even better place for everyone!



**NEW HOMES
RE-DESIGNS
RENOVATIONS
COST+ PLANS
D-I-Y CONSULTING**

SERVING GARDEN OAKS
FOR FOUR DECADES

713.695.7007
HARRYJAMESBUILDER.COM



**YOUR GARDEN OAKS NEIGHBORS
WITH 50 YEARS OF EXPERTISE**

**LED WELL
REALTY**

be led well.

Community Minded. Client Focused. Trusted Advisors.

TERRY JEANES
281-236-8033
TERRY@TERRYJEANES.COM

GINNY LEDWELL
281-635-7181
GINNY@LEDWELLREALTY.COM

Make a Difference!

Tony Padon, Section 3 resident

As you approach the Graham Park tennis court fro 34th street, there is a sign that says "Adopt a Tennis Court". About 15 years ago, I took that suggestion to heart. Being a life-long tennis player and tennis supporter, I decided to take care of this court in Section 1. The first thing it needed was a bench to sit on that had some shade from our brutal summer sun. So, in 2008 I built a bench and shade cover.

Then, a few years ago, I added another bench on the west side of the court for those summer afternoons when the west sun is too much for the shaded bench on the east side. Recently I noticed that the shade covering was just plain worn out so I rebuilt the shade cover and added a few coats of paint to the bench. Voila! It's like new again! And every time I go to the court, I take my blower and clear the court. The trees nearby provide wonderful shade but also lots of leaves and pine needles. I also prompted HPARD (Houston Parks and Recreation Department) to rebuild the backboard, and now it has one of the nicest tennis back-

boards in the city.

I've recently decided that it's time for a repair and resurfacing of the court. I contacted Zina Garrison, former top 4 WTA professional tennis player and now HPARD Youth Sports Manager/Tennis. I met with Zina and Deputy Director, Tom Angelos, and explained to them that I wanted to help with getting the court resurfaced. I met on the court with both Tom Angelos and Michael Evans, HPARD Deputy Director of Facilities Management and Development. All CoH park improvements must go through his department.

They have agreed to have their preferred contractor provide a bid for the repairs and resurfacing, which is expected to cost between \$14,000 and \$18,000. Tom also recommended a call to District C Council member Abbie Kamin, as she is an enthusiastic supporter of park improvements and more Pickleball courts. We will ensure that both sides of the court have Pickleball court lines.

(Continued on page 5)

YOUR LOCAL TEAM OF REAL ESTATE EXPERTS

In the Heart of Garden Oaks



INDYQUEST
PROPERTIES
YOUR DREAM IS OUR QUEST





Creston & Holly
Inderrieden

BROKER | OWNERS

 713.301.4054

 INDYQUEST.NET

 INDYQUESTPROPERTIES

(Continued from page 4)

Once I get the repair quote, I will contact CM Kamin and arrange an in-person meeting to discuss the project, cost, and if there are any budgeted funds in 2024. Depending on what I find out, I may start a campaign to raise funds. Stay tuned!



Spend your dreams wisely.

 CONVENTIONAL LOANS & REFINANCING

 JUMBO LOANS¹

 USDA, FHA & VA LOANS

 OTHER LOAN PROGRAMS

 CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION LOANS



Christina Gobe NMLS# 179895
Mortgage Loan Consultant

Direct: 713-725-7475
christina.gobe@firstunitedbank.com
cgobe.firstunitedteam.com

SPEND LIFE WISELY[®]



Member FDIC.  Equal Housing Lender. NMLS# 400025

¹ Jumbo loans can exceed the conforming loan limits set by Fannie Mae & Freddie Mac. This is not an offer for extension of credit or commitment to lend. All loans subject to program guidelines and final underwriting approval. Not all applicants will qualify. Information and pricing are subject to change at any time and without notice. The content in this advertisement is for informational purposes only. © 2023 First United Bank. All Rights Reserved.



2024 DUES STATEMENT (January – December)

Civic Club membership is open to all residents. While membership is voluntary, you must be a paid member to be eligible to vote on civic club matters. Constable Dues are also voluntary and help pay for our Precinct One Constable Deputy on patrol.

Civic Club:

\$ _____ **Basic Membership \$40** (\$20 for seniors 65+)

\$ _____ **Community Household Membership \$100**

Constable Program:

\$ _____ **Annual Constable Supporter (\$250, w/yard signage)**

\$ _____ **Additional Constable Program contribution**

Other:

\$ _____ **Contribution to Beautification** (maintain area green spaces)

\$ _____ **Contribution to Garden Club** (maintain Friendship Garden, Section 1)

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to:
Garden Oaks Civic Club, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206

-OR- Pay online at gardenoaks.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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

Garden Oaks Kids

Sara Mathias, GOKids Admin

GOKids is excited to host our first ever Mardi Gras Parade on Saturday, February 10 on LaMonte between Golf and Alba at 4 PM.

Neighbors are welcome to come cheer on the kids and catch some fun prizes or ride in the parade (walk, bikes, golf carts, strollers or wagons). If you plan to ride in the parade, please come to Lamonte and Alba at 3:45 pm and be sure to bring prizes to throw. Decorated "floats" and costumes are encouraged.

GoKids members will be provided a treat/craft and prizes to throw, if they are riding in the parade. If you would like to join GOKids, please sign up at <https://gardenoakskids.cheddarup.com>.

Membership dues are paid once per calendar year and allow your entire family to participate in the 9-10 events that we offer each year. It is a great way to meet neighbors and support our local businesses. We just hosted a Moms' Night

out at Great Heights Brewing, and we are looking forward to our Earth Day Party at Wakefield Crow Bar with a reptile rehabilitation group. GOKids is a great way to meet neighbors and support our local businesses.



Evolving Your Wealth

with a personalized, holistic financial plan
that evolves with your dynamic life.



VERDE
WEALTH GROUP



Georgie M. Hrdlicka
J.D. | CFP®
Garden Oaks Resident



Patricia A. Moore
MBA | CFP® | AEP®

AREAS OF FOCUS:

- Life Changing Events
- Cash Flow Management
- Investment Management
- Insurance & Asset Protection
- Retirement
- Education
- Tax Planning
- Estate Planning

**Contact us today to take
the next step toward your
ideal life.**

info@verdewealth.com
713.929.3250
verdewealth.com

Fee-Based Planning offered through Verde Wealth Group TM, LLC a State Registered Investment Advisor. Third Party Money Management. Offered Through Valmark Advisers, Inc., a SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Securities offered through Valmark Securities, Inc. Member FINRA. 519C130 Springdale Drive, Suite 300 Akron, Ohio 44333-2431 1-800-755-5201. Verde Wealth Group TM, LLC is a separate entity from Valmark Securities, Inc. and Valmark Advisers, Inc.

Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

Deepak Khosla, GOCC Secretary

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 @ Great Heights Brewing

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Mike Stephens.

A motion to accept the minutes from the December 2023 meeting was made, seconded, and approved.

New president Mike Stephens introduced himself, providing some personal and family context, and mentioned the many reasons he and his wife Emily enjoy Garden Oaks and are volunteering. He then introduced the other officers present: Secretary Deepak Khosla and Treasurer Brian Rabe. Vice President Paul Vincent was not present. Committee chairs Pam Parks and Brenda de Alba were introduced. The various officers and committee chair contact info can be found inside the monthly Gazette.

Mike then discussed some of the priorities for 2024 including:

- Increasing monthly attendance and continuing

the focus on making the meetings a fun, social event for attendees.

- Distributing more information timely to more folks in the neighborhood (Gazette, social media, website). An initial priority will be to look for someone with experience in leveraging social media.

- Differentiating the Civic Club from GOMO/HOA and the value of both organizations. GOMO has funded various projects in the past including the Constable program and beautification.

- Participating with other neighboring communities including Oak Forest and the North Shepherd **District** (NSD). Mike Stephens and Pam Parks attended the last NSD meeting.

- Executing the new rebranding initiative and plan.
- Bringing in more interesting speakers, such as a gardening guru, or maybe the developers for the old Sears property.

- Providing updates on ongoing construction projects.

(Continued on page 9)



Need someone that speaks fluent insurance?

Aitu Taube, Agent
1362A W. 43rd St.
Houston, TX 77018
Bus: 713-682-3900
www.aitutaube.com
Se habla español

I'm your agent for that.

No one wants to pay for unnecessary extras and with my help, you won't have to. I'll help make sure you understand your options, and that you have the best coverage at the best price.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

CALL ME TODAY.

 **State Farm™**

(Continued from page 8)

- Getting fresh input from the community on other priorities the Club could pursue by sending out a new survey.

The 2023 closing treasure's report was distributed, and a motion was approved to accept it.

Current GOMO board members Brenda de Alba and Mark Saranie were present and briefly discussed the current state of GOMO, and the need for people to participate in the upcoming election and to volunteer for the open positions. The meeting will be held January 25th at St Stephen's United Methodist Church. More details are available at <https://www.gardenoaks.org/gomo-home/>.

Constable Kelly gave a brief update and mentioned how much she enjoyed working the Garden Oaks area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.



Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

While writing this post, it's 28 degrees outside. Farmer Cathy sold out of eggs in record time on Saturday and was told that HEB was sold out already. I am reminded of winter storm Uri just shy of three years ago and the mayhem that surrounded it: loss of power for hours at a time, and then loss of water due to broken pipes, etc. I was hunkered down at my place in relative comfort considering it never got above 50 degrees. I had prepared for the event and what follows is a primer on how to provide for such an occurrence.

Pretend you're going on a camping trip, and what would you need? You'll need shelter, water and food, along with a way to cook it, pretty much in that order. I once heard a couple of survival experts speak of the rule of sevens. You can die of hypothermia in seven hours, without water in seven days and without food in seven weeks. Your shelter is your home; I enhanced my chances by bringing home a sleeping bag. I had stocked over ten gallons of filtered water for drinking and cooking, and because of my business, my pantry was already well stocked.

By the time y'all read this, we will be well past our current situation, but not out of the woods yet. If you are fortunate enough to have a gas stove, you can still cook on the stove top using a stick lighter. And if you have a gas water heater with a pilot, you'll have hot water for washing and bathing.

There are solutions to these problems. For cooking without gas, you can purchase a cartridge burner similar to the ones that caterers use. They can be purchased with extra fuel at most asian markets for less than thirty dollars. You can power your gas home heater by using a small car battery and an appropriately sized dc to ac converter.

There are plenty of other hacks that can be employed. Just remember before the front arrives, fill your vehicles full of gas, as they make great warming shelters, just not in the garage with the door closed. Fill five gallon buckets full of water placed in the tub for flushing toilets and washing dishes.

As always, "Come soon, come often and feel free to pick my brain."

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1964



Monday - Friday

7:00 am - 6:00 pm

By Appointment Only

Saturday

7:30 am - 11:30 am

Walk-Ins Welcome

Closed Sunday

713.682.6351 OAKFORESTVET.COM

2120 West 34th Street, Between T.C. Jester and Ella

NEW CLIENTS RECEIVE 10% OFF FIRST VISIT

Constable Program

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

Have you supported the Constable Program yet? We need you! Watch for the 2024 mailer. Return your CIVIC CLUB MAILER promptly as it includes the opportunity for you to contribute for the 2024 year. 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!

If you need a new sign or 2024 sticker, 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/>





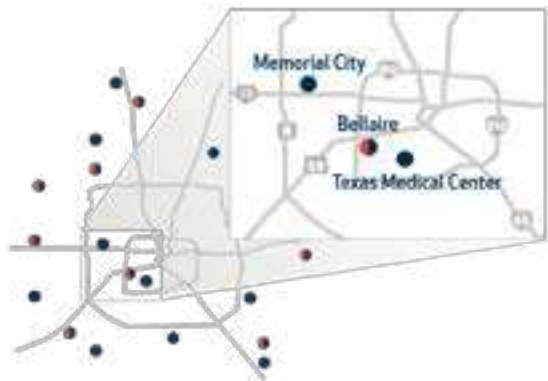
Leading Orthopedic Care to
KEEP YOU MOVING

Our sports medicine specialists can help keep your body in motion.

At Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, we know every movement matters. Our board-certified sports medicine specialists offer:

- The latest imaging and technology
- Advanced nonsurgical treatments
- Minimally invasive procedures
- State-of-the-art physical and occupational therapy

Whether you're suffering from simple aches and pains or dealing with a complex injury, we can get you back on your feet — and keep you moving.



- Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine
- Houston Methodist Orthopedic Injury Clinic — offering same-day care

20+ convenient locations across Greater Houston



OFFICIAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Same-day appointments for injuries.

Schedule an appointment:

houstonmethodist.org/sportsmed

713.790.3333

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.

1011 West 41st

863 West 43rd

750 Sue Barnett

1522 Sue Barnett

737 Sue Barnett

208 West 34th

709 West 39th

3007 Lawrence

Happy Birthday

Ann Best 2nd

Georgia Lister 5th

Tonya Knauth 9th

Alisha Cunningham 12th

Lela C. 12th

Brenda de Alba 17th

Terry Williams 17th

M'lissa Dilley 22nd

Grady S. 22nd

Maya Rahman 23rd

Elan Britt 28th

Eddie Battenfield

Happy Anniversary

Will & Deanna Zugheri 23rd



Congratulations to Alex Feit in her 1st place finish at Ninja Competition in Virginia. Also to **Lillie E.** for earning her Gold Belt in Karate. Kudos to **Kate McKeown**; she set a swim record for 50 meter freestyle at a meet in December.

Out and About

The **Vonder Haars** enjoyed a trip to Lisbon, Portugal. It was a New Year's Cruise on the new Carnival Jubilee for **Terry Jeanes** and family, visiting Roatan, Costa Maya, and Cozumel.

Marisa Zindler and daughter Alex visited Washington DC. **Heather McKeown and Evan Morgan** recently enjoyed West Texas over New Years. The **Kurtas family** had a great time in Breckenridge, CO.

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

Constable Statistics December 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.

Accident - 2	Property Found Lost – 1
Alarm Local - 1	Special Assignment - 2
Burglary of Habitation - 1	Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 9
Check /Park/School/Business – 12	Theft Residence/Other - 2
Civil Process - 4	Traffic Hazard – 2
Contract Check – 71	Traffic Initiative - 1
Disturbance Loud Noise/Fireworks - 6	Traffic Stop - 26
Information Call -2	Vacation Watch –5
Follow Up -9	Warrant Service - 2
Meet the Citizen – 17	Welfare Check - 1

Save the Date!

Pollinators in the Park
Sunday, April 14, 2024
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

The Garden Oaks Garden Club, with special guest Lauren Simpson, will guide kids on a tour of the plants and pollinators present in the Art Park (Sue Barnett @ W. 43rd). Exhibits and lots of fun activities are planned to educate attendees about the importance of these species to both people and the planet. Look for updates in the Gazette next month.

Furnace Replacement: The Sooner, the Better

Mitch Weigand

January is one of our coldest months, and your furnace works hard to keep you warm and comfortable. But how efficiently is it functioning and at what cost? Is it making you sick by leaking carbon monoxide? Should you consider replacing it?

The two most common furnace repairs are a blown circuit board and burnt-up fan motor. At \$800-\$1,000 each, both are expensive to fix. That's a lot of money, considering a typical brand-new furnace runs \$2,500-3,500 installed.

More importantly, does your aging furnace have cracks in its heat exchanger? These can leak deadly carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning in the United States.

Improved efficiency, comfort, and savings

Including the furnace, all of the components in your home's heating and cooling system should have the highest possible energy efficiency ratings. The higher the rating, the more efficient the product and lower your energy bills will

be.

I strongly recommend replacing your furnace if it's more than 10 years old. In the last decade, the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) industry has made amazing advances in technology. A modern furnace typically uses only half the gas to heat your home as a model built in 2003, plus does it much more efficiently, in about half the time.

More importantly, the new furnace's blower motor uses only one-tenth the electricity as the one in a decade-old furnace. During the summer, this blower motor is also used by your AC system to distribute cool air throughout your home. Its greater efficiency means greater savings throughout the year.

Your new furnace will create comfortable heating throughout your home, improved humidity balance and reduced sound level while it operates. The cost savings will be impressive too.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise™.

Here's what our customers say about us:

I am extremely satisfied.

Sean E., Lakes on Eldridge

★★★★★ "Mitch and the Air Wise team performed a wonderful job. I am extremely satisfied with Mitch's expert, helpful advice and the excellent work the guys did from start to finish."



Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand



Air Wise™
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

713/231-2222

Service checks • Full installs
Emergency service day & night
www.airwisehouston.com

License #TACLA020081C • Regulated by the Texas Dept. of Licensing & Regulation

February

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Ground Hog Day	3
4	5	6 GOCC Meeting 7:00 pm Yard Waste Garbage	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Yard Waste Garbage Recycling	14  Valentine's Day	15 Junk Waste	16	17
18	19 President's Day	20 Yard Waste Garbage	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		



DEANNA
ZUGHERI
GARDENOAKSHOMES.COM






SALE PENDING



408 W 31ST

Deanna@GardenOaksHomes.com ~ 281.658.4514

"I KNOW GARDEN OAKS AND THE VALUE OF YOUR PROPERTY."