



garden oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

July 2024

Volume 46 Issue 7

July 4th Parade

Emily Stephens, Social Chair

Join us for the 4th of July Parade! We'll be at the GOMM Spark Park (41st and Sue Barnett) at 8:30 AM on Thursday, July 4th, and the parade will start at 9AM. Decorate your strollers, bikes or scooters with your festive decor as we walk throughout the neighborhood.

Prefer to stay home and enjoy the show?
That's great! Grab your lawn chairs and get festive!

Check out our social media for more details!
[@GardenOaksHouston](#)

Upcoming Events

GOCC Meeting:
No meeting for July

4th of July Parade
July 4th
8:30 am
GOMM Spark Park



Gazette Delivery Volunteers Needed!

There are several streets in Garden Oaks that need block captains to deliver Gazette newsletters to homes each month. Specifically, these two routes need volunteers:

**404 through 531 West 30th, and 603-619 West 30th
1002-1090 Lamonte, and 4206-4219 Alba**

This would be an ongoing opportunity to volunteer, on a once-a-month basis. The bundle of newsletters will be dropped off at your home, and delivery to your route would take 45 minutes to an hour.

If interested, please contact Delivery Coordinator Angela Winston at
gazettedelivery@gardenoaks.org

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
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Central City Air
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Great Heights Brewing Company
Ghbrewing.com

Nationwide Tools and Supplies
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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

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beautification@gardenoaks.org

Constable Program - Terry Jeanes
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Membership – Dian Austin 713 691 6505
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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.

Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

Deepak Khosla, GOCC Secretary

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 @ Great Heights Brewing

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Mike Stephens.
The minutes from the May 2024 meeting were approved.

Mike briefly discussed the ongoing goal to increase the current membership count of over 200 households. The significant local damage and long power outage due to the May 16 derecho was the next topic. Council Member Kamin's and Castillo's offices have offered to help anyone in need due to the storm.

A motion was made to approve the revised 2024 budget presented at the May meeting. The motion was seconded, and the revised budget was unanimously approved.

Treasure Brian Rabe presented the Treasurer's report and clarified that the budget was on track and the deficit was per plan.

Constable chair Terry Jeanes mentioned that Deputy Kelly will be participating in the July 4th parade.

Social chair Emily Stephens reported on the upcoming July 4th parade. The Azalea St. Beer and Wine fundraiser will be in October and help from volunteers on that day will be needed and appreciated. The event is the biggest fund raiser for the Constable program. Our single deputy contract costs around \$94,000 annually. It was mentioned that GOMO may be able to once again fund part of the program once it is up and running.

Russell Etherton from Councilman Mario Castillo's office discussed their effort to raise money to help seniors with storm damage, tree debris removal status and the associated high volume of incoming requests. He encouraged continued calls to 311 to request debris removal. A member from State Representative Penny Morales Shaw also offered to contact her office for help as needed.

(continued on page 4)

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(continued from page 3)

GOCC Beautification Committee Chair Pam Parks presented the group's various responsibilities. The unique nature of Garden Oaks with curvy and narrower than normal streets and bigger right of ways (ROWs) lends itself to various pockets of parks in our neighborhood including 6 adopted ROWs with an area of over 2 acres, and 4 unadopted ROWs. The committee helps take care of mowing and maintenance of these ROWs while the city pays for the watering. The general philosophy is to support a wide range of styles and move towards native and pollinator plans to conserve water. Most parks have a Park Captain responsible for organizing workdays and for fundraising for the bed maintenance and mowing contracts. Other efforts undertaken by the Committee include branding support with pillars and entrance signs. Maps of this branding effort and the presentation itself will be available on the GOCC web site.

Mike thanked Pam for the tremendous passion she brings to the management of the community parks and the web site.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM with the announcement that there will not be a July meeting.

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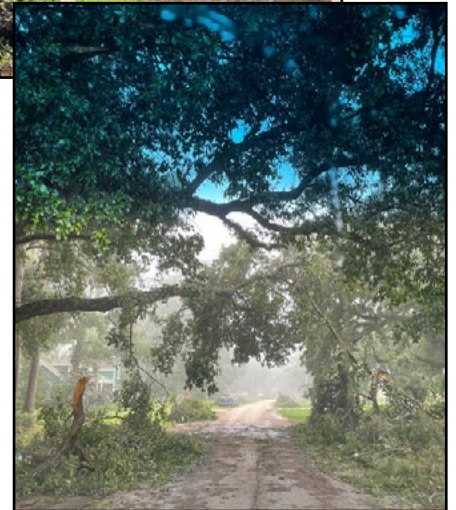
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Derecho in Garden Oaks

Miranda Mitchell, Section 4 resident

800,000 folks without power.
 The wind blew through and knocked over towers.
 Branches and trees thrown all over the place.
 The straight winds came through and did not have grace.
 Families and friends, strangers, and neighbors,
 shared things like extension cords, freezers and favors.
 Cleaning out refrigerators and emptying out bins,
 spending time with new people who have now become
 friends.
 Playtime outside in the heat to have fun,
 before the sun went down and everyone was done.
 Garden Oaks once again rallies together.
 These natural disasters make us stronger than ever.



Derecho may be your name.
 And winds were your game.
 Remember you, we will,
 But together we remain.

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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: _____

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

Mickey's Minute

Mickey Morales

I'm writing this post on June 14th, which is Flag Day and what would have been my mother's ninety-second birthday. July is my birthday month. As I approach my sixty seventh trip around the sun on July 29th, I'm inclined to celebrate throughout the entire month, because there's no guarantee of tomorrow. Last year one of my pet-sitting customers mused that I was going to live to be 105, so I decided that in true hobbit fashion, I want to live to be eleventy-eleven.

In market news nothing much has changed, with the exception of the temperature. Please allow me to apologize for last month's rant about not being able to move inside before summer starts. It happens every year when the heat ramps up; I just don't normally commit it to paper. Once I get it out of my system, I just put my head down and accept my fate. I have, however, been slowly upping my game when it comes to my culinary offerings. Our brave market vendor, Sophia, has grown up on us and will be moving off to attend college out of state and there will be a need for baked goods and other goodies.

The good news is I found out last night that my friends at Decant Urban Winery have finally received notice that their permitting woes are over, and they can begin building out. That means perhaps we can be inside before the wet and cold season arrives. We will now have to play the waiting game and see how the build out progress goes.

As always, "Come soon, come often, and bring your neighbors."



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GOKids Update

Sara Mathias, GOKids President

GOKids will have a breakfast and parade decorating party before the start of the annual Garden Oaks Bike Parade. Parents will enjoy iced coffee while helping decorate bikes and scooters in festive 4th of July decor. We are also busy planning our August event, which will be a community event where we decorate and fill lunch bags for Kids' Meals. It is a great way to introduce our kids to volunteering.

Summer camps are in full swing. Matthew, 9, says "I love Club Westside because they have animals and video games." Christian, 7, offers that "gymnastics camp is the best because I can do what things I want." Odette, 6, is excited to go to Kid Create camp because she loves art classes.

GOKids has at least 4 more events planned for the remainder of 2024. It is a great way to meet neighborhood families and support the businesses in our community. <https://gardenoakskids.cheddarup.com>



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Constable Program

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

Looking ahead.... The Constable Fall Fundraiser is critical if we are to keep the Constable Contract in full thru 2025. Several of last year's team members will help again this year, but we could use some additional volunteers. We already have a template for the Azalea Street Beer and Wine Extravaganza in order, so the time is nigh to get started. If you are willing to help with our fundraiser, please email gosocial@gardenoaks.org or constable@gardenoaks.org with interest or questions. Stay tuned to social media for updates and announcements.

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/>

Vacation Watch: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>

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Beat the Heat with Summer Sangria!

Kala Dunn, Garden Oaks resident

A signature sangria recipe is a great way to set your summer backyard or pool party apart from the rest! A crisp glass of white wine or light bodied red wine can be refreshing on a warm day, but sometimes an additional fruity kick and glass full of ice is needed to beat the heat.

Experimentation is the key to discovering your own signature sangria recipe. While you're following your inspiration, here are some things you might keep in mind, based on my experience making sangria at Plonk! Bistro:

- Good sangria generally starts with a good wine – choose something you would drink on its own. I generally choose light-bodied reds and fruit forward whites, but try your favorites and find the right signature bottle for your soon-to-be-famous sangria.
- Simple syrup is an easy to make sweetener that works well for sangria. I prepare simple syrup with a one-to-one ratio – one part sugar, one part water. Just bring the water to a boil and dissolve the sugar, then allow the mixture to cool. This simple syrup will last in the fridge for up to a month. Simple syrup with a higher sugar content can last

even longer.

- The bitterness of orange peel can add a complexity that will complement your sangria. Oranges are a must have for all of my favorite versions of sangria, both red and white. Wash the oranges, remove any stickers from the grocery store, but don't peel them. Cut them into 1-inch chunks and add them to the sangria, peel and all.

- Red or white wine may make up the base of your sangria, but other ingredients, like dessert wines, fortified wines, or even liqueurs can add a little booziness and bring additional flavor. At Plonk! Bistro, Sauterne is a favorite for white sangria, and a ruby port makes our red sangria richer and more flavorful.

- Mix and match fruit depending on what's available, well priced, of good quality, and in season. Plum is a great addition to a red sangria, while nectarine or peaches work well in white. Berries are always a nice choice, and blueberries are my favorite for their ability to impart flavor and color while holding their shape.

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- Let the fruit sit in the wine mixture, refrigerated, for at least 8 hours. You can adjust the flavor after soaking the fruit and before serving. Is your sangria too sweet? Add more acid, like lemon or lime juice, or pour in a little more wine. Too bitter or tart? Add a little more simple syrup or orange juice.

- Serving your sangria with cut fruit inside the glass makes a beautiful visual presentation, but if you'd like to extend the shelf life of your sangria, strain out the fruit and store the sangria in an air-tight container. Stored this way, sangria can last several days, so prep extra for a refreshing pick-me-up any day of the week!

Plonk! White Sangria (my go-to recipe during Texas Peach Season)

- 1 bottle dry white wine
- 1 cup chopped, peeled ripe Texas Peaches
- 1 cup blueberries, chopped or cut in half
- 1 orange, cut into 1-inch chunks, including the peel
- 1/3 cup dessert wine (Sauternes, Semillon, or Moscato)
- 1/3 cup simple syrup (1:1 ratio)
- 1/3 cup fresh squeezed orange juice
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 Tablespoon lime juice

Combine ingredients and store in the refrigerator for 8 hours or overnight. Strain if desired, or serve with fruit over ice and garnish with fresh orange slices.

Kala Dunn is a long-time Garden Oaks resident and the Executive Chef of Plonk! Bistro and Wine Cellar, a neighborhood wine bar serving Garden Oaks and the surrounding area.



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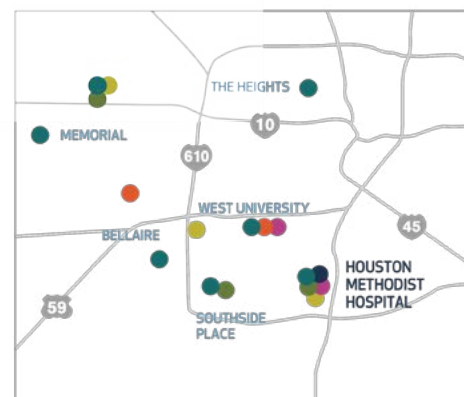
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Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

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

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 975 West 41st
 713 Sue Barnett
 927 Lamonte
 966 Lamonte
 765 Sue Barnett
 822 West 31st
 336 West 32nd
 761 West 42nd
 859 Azalea
 327 West 34th
 935 Gardenia
 1462 Sue Barnett
 822 West 32nd
 1574 Sue Barnett
 725 Garden Oaks Blvd.
 878 West 41st
 742 Sue Barnett

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

Happy Anniversary

Jenny and Jason Espeseth – 7th

Special Thoughts

To Michael Beard in the recent loss of his pup, Tucker, who had been a loyal companion for 10 years.



Out and About

The **McKeown family** celebrated Evie's 16th birthday in Grayton Beach, Florida.

John and Cindy Bartos enjoyed Red Rocks Amphitheatre in Colorado seeing Gary Clark Jr and Mavis Staples in concert.

The **O'Guynn clan** visited Yellowstone National Park, experiencing a snowstorm but still enjoyed park geysers, hot springs, Old Faithful, and more. **The McLeans** had a fabulous week sailing around the British Virgin Islands, on their friends' Tortola based yacht.

It was a week breakaway from derecho for **Terry Jeanes** and **Patrick Kelley** who visited Roatan Honduras, Mahahual Mexico and the Tulum Ruins. For **Caroline Stender**, it was off to Stillwater, Oklahoma for a wedding.

Tina Rowe celebrated her birthday with a Norwegian cruise including stops in Rotterdam and Copenhagen

Congratulations to

Kate McKeown celebrated graduation with family and friends at a gathering feasting on cracklins, boudin, crawfish, shrimp, jambalaya, sausage, pralines, & more as perfect preparation for LSU college life.

Katie Cunningham graduated from Heights High School with an IB certificate & a cord for volunteering in the writing center & a cord for her career path Audio Visual Arts.

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 May 2024

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 – 2	Information Call -3
Burglary of Habitation – 1	Life in Danger - 1
Burglary of Motor Vehicle - 3	Meet the Citizen – 25
Check Park/School/Business - 8	Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 10
Civil Process - 2	Theft Residence – 1
Contract Check – 71	Traffic Hazard – 1
Disturbance Loud Noise/Other - 2	Vacation Watch –13
Evading Arrest - 1	Vehicle Speeding - 1
Follow Up – 2	Vehicle Stolen – 2
Illegally Parked Vehicle - 1	Welfare Check -1

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Choosing a Home Generator: Portable vs. Stand-by

Part One of Three

Mitch Weigand

During every hurricane season, many people want to know my thoughts on purchasing a generator. Let's review both types of generators available along with their pros and cons.

Home generators are designed to handle power outages. They run on a variety of fuels such as gasoline, diesel, natural gas (NG) and propane. At the very least, the generator should have enough capacity to run your refrigerator, a couple of lamps and fans, plus any special medical equipment required by a family member.

A portable generator may be the answer. The most economical way to supply emergency electricity is a portable generator which will create enough wattage to fit your needs. The smallest generator for household use should supply at least 4,000 watts (4 kilowatts) of power. That size could probably run a refrigerator, a fan, one light and perhaps your TV.

Portable generators are powered by gasoline or a propane tank – the same type used for large outdoor grills. Propane can be a good choice because gas stations are often closed down immediately after a hurricane, and you have to use a fuel stabilizer to help maintain stored gasoline that sits around for a long time. Propane

is much more stable and does not require any additives.

A portable generator is a lot like a lawn mower. They are started by pulling a cord, and one very important consideration is how many people in your household have the strength and skill to start it. Portable generators also produce pollution – both air and noise.

Please note that NO portable generator should be operated inside or near windows, doors or any other area that could allow deadly fumes such as carbon monoxide to seep into your home. A suggested safe distance is at least 10 feet away. Heavy-duty extension cords will have to be run from the generator into the house to power your chosen appliances.

What is the price range? For many homeowners, this is the starting point. Prices range from about \$350 for an economical, no-name model that produces 4,000-watts to \$2,000 for an 8,000-watt, top-end unit. They can be purchased online, many with free shipping, or at any big-box hardware store.

This topic will be continued in next month's Garden Oaks Gazette.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise™

Here's what our customers say about us:

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Maggie W., Braes Oaks

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Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand



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July

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Yard Waste, Garbage, & Recycling	3	4  Parade 8:30 am Spark Park	5	6 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
7	8	9 Yard Waste & Garbage	10	11	12	13 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
14	15	16 Yard Waste, Garbage, & Recycling	17 Ashura	18	19	20 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
21	22	23 Yard Waste & Garbage	24	25 Tree Waste	26	27 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
28	29	30 Yard Waste, Garbage, & Recycling	31			

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