



## Waterford Park

### COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OLDE OAKS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

### Trash Talk 2.0

The OOCIA Board recently voted to change trash removal contractors, thereby saving the community nearly \$80,000 for the year. Beginning on **May 1, 2012**, Royal Recycle & Disposal trucks, instead of Republic Waste Services trucks, will be trundling up and down our streets. Because waste removal comprises nearly one-third of our community's annual budget, it is important to understand and utilize the services we are offered. Here's the scoop:

- Pickup Days** – Mondays and Thursdays, except for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.
- Setting Out Trash** – Do not set trash out any earlier than 7 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is a deed restriction!
- Backdoor Service** – Workers will not collect trash from behind your gate or fence, but instead of lugging household trash to the curb, please place your household trash container in an easily accessible spot on the driveway near the side of your house or garage door. This not only reduces the incidence of trash being blown over by a rogue wind or strewn along your yard or curb by a hungry animal, but also helps make our community look clean and neat.
- Yard Waste** – Leaves and clippings should be bagged and placed by the curb for collection. Pruned limbs should be bundled into 4-foot lengths. Bundles should be no heavier than 40 lbs.
- Heavy Trash** – Heavy trash (i.e., construction debris, old patio furniture, defunct appliances) is picked up on Thursdays. Like yard waste, it should be placed at the curb. This is limited to one item per week per home. Call Royal at 713-526-1536 to make arrangements for additional items.
- Recycling** – Place all recyclables in the designated bin at curbside. Recycling is picked up on Thursdays. Rinse out all food containers and break down all cardboard boxes before placing them in your bin. Please see page 3 for a handy chart of what Royal will take. Cut it out and tape it to the inside of your bin for future reference.
- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)** – Items such as household cleaners, paint and paint-related products, yard/automotive products, batteries, tires, aerosol containers, small propane cylinders, and mercury-containing items (e.g., thermometers, CFLs and fluorescent tubes) can be disposed of at the Harris County HHW Facility located at 6900 Hahl Road, Houston 77040 (Hwy. 290 and Gessner area) on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the second Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 281-560-6200 for more information. You can also check out [www.Earth911.com](http://www.Earth911.com) for other facilities that accept specialized waste.

(See page 3 for Recycling Guidelines)

### Notice to Homeowners of Olde Oaks CIA Board Meeting

**When:** 2nd Wednesday of each month unless otherwise posted

**Where:** MUD 44 Bldg. on TC Jester on south side of the bridge

**Time:** 6:45 p.m.

If you want to receive an email reminder a few days prior to the meeting, please send an email request to [info@ACMImgmt.com](mailto:info@ACMImgmt.com). Please include your name, address and email address. Please note that members are welcome as observers and will not participate in discussions or voting. There will be a question and answer period at the end of the meeting.

April 11, 2012 • May 9, 2012 • June 13, 2012 • July 11, 2012

# Who You Gonna Call?

**ACMI Management Company** ..... 281-251-2292  
 12603 Louetta Rd., Suite 101 ..... Fax 281-370-9238  
 Cypress, TX 77429.....[www.ACMIimgmt.com](http://www.ACMIimgmt.com)  
 Bert Williams, Property Mgr. ....[info@ACMIimgmt.com](mailto:info@ACMIimgmt.com)

**Harris County Pct. 4, Commissioner R. Jack Cagle**  
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**Alarm Detail Office of HCSO** ..... 713-755-4600

**CenterPoint Energy** ..... 713-207-2222  
 Street Light Out..... 800-332-7143  
 website: [www.centerpointenergy.com/services/electricity/residential/reportastreetlightoutage](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/services/electricity/residential/reportastreetlightoutage)

**Dirty Pools**  
 The Environmental Public Health Dept. .... 713-274-6300

**Greenbelt Preservation Association (<http://oogpa.com>)**  
 Bruce Ganer, President..... 281-537-2716  
 Craig Lewis, Vice President.....  
 Kathy Zigler, Secretary ..... 281-580-5512  
 Tanya Morland, Treasurer..... 281-631-9479  
 John Edmonson, Director at Large .....

**Justice of the Peace**..... 281-376-5512  
 (Barking Dog Complaints)

**Municipal Utility Districts (MUD) Water**  
**Manhole/Sewer Backup** ..... 713-983-3602

**MUD #20 – Southwest Water Company**  
 Billing, Service & Emergencies..... 713-405-1750  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
 Phil Eubanks ..... 281-440-4804  
 George Faulkner..... 281-808-9300  
 John Dougrey ..... 281-580-7010  
 Robert Skinner..... 281-580-7885

**MUD #44 – Water District Management**  
[www.wdmtexas.com/districts/ds\\_hcmudd44.htm](http://www.wdmtexas.com/districts/ds_hcmudd44.htm)  
 Billing, Service & Emergencies..... 281-376-8802  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
 Rolf Flemming..... 281-583-0671  
 Toby Landry ..... 281-440-1328  
 Robert Ramsey ..... 281-537-8701  
 Tom Sooy ..... 281-444-6404  
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 Fax ..... 281-379-1428

**Bammel Utility District Office**..... 281-376-8802  
[www.wdmtexas.com/districts/ds\\_hcmudd44.htm](http://www.wdmtexas.com/districts/ds_hcmudd44.htm)  
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 Nicholas Fava, President ..... 281-440-8638  
 Garey Nelson ..... 713-598-5346  
 Alan Kaniss ..... 281-453-6009  
 Al Habinak ..... 281-893-4776  
 James Armand..... 281-440-4754

**Pet Liaison**  
 Julie Brown ..... 713-302-9148

**Reliant Energy**  
 Entex Natural Gas ..... 713-659-2111  
 CenterPoint Energy ..... 713-207-2222

**Trash Pickup**  
 Republic Waste Services ..... 281-446-2030

## Olde Oaks Community Improvement Association Current Officers

Susan Sulski, President/Deputy Patrol Coordinator  
 Christine Potter, Vice President  
 Vince Perna, Secretary  
 Linda Faulkner, Treasurer  
 Joycelyn Ray-Latson, Director at Large

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

911	Emergency/Crime in progress, Sheriff's Department, Ambulance and Fire
713-221-6000	Sheriff's Department – Nonemergency
281-251-0101	Klein V.E.D.
281-999-3191	Animal Control
281-376-2997	To request Vacation Watch, call between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
1-800-222-1222	Poison Control Center – 24-Hr. Emergency Assistance

**For Deed Restrictions and Neighborhood Management, call ACMI Management Company at 281-251-2292.**

**To access the Olde Oaks/Waterford Park Webpage, go to ACMI Management's website, [www.ACMIimgmt.com](http://www.ACMIimgmt.com).**

**Click on "Homeowner Access" tab, enter your house number and street name. Click "Verify," then select "Olde Oaks" from the drop-down menu.**

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Got exciting news to share? Have something for sale? Have a community-related event to publicize? Want your neighbors to know more about an important issue? Submit all of this and more to the *Olde Oaks Waterford Park Community Newsletter*. We want to hear from you!

**The May Newsletter Deadline is April 10.**

Editors: **Gabrielle Bryant** and **Laura Summers**

Email: [OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com](mailto:OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com)

Mail or Hand-delivery: 3511 Kennonview Drive

For hand-delivery, please leave on the clip near the front door, **not** in the U.S. mailbox. All submissions must be signed to be considered for publication.

**DISCLAIMER:** Articles in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Champions Printing & Publishing, Inc. or its employees, Olde Oaks Community Improvement Association or Community Newsletter. Champions Printing & Publishing, Inc., Olde Oaks Community Improvement Association and Community Newsletter are not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others.

# RECYCLING GUIDELINES

## PAPER

### Yes, Please – Recycle It!

- Corrugated cardboard
- Magazines and catalogues
- Clean pizza, beer, and soda boxes
- Telephone books and paperback books
- Newspapers and circulars
- Paperboard (e.g., cereal/food boxes, detergent boxes, paper egg cartons)
- Office/school paper, fax paper (all colors)
- Tetrapak (paper dairy/juice cartons)
- Junk mail, including window envelopes

### No, Thank You – Trash It!

- Waxed paper/cereal box liner
- Mixed metal and paper (stapled items)
- Food-contaminated boxes (cheesy pizza boxes)
- Diapers
- Food/seed bags
- Slick-coated food boxes
- Tissue paper or foil gift wrap
- Tyvek envelopes
- Hardback books

## GLASS

### Yes, Please – Recycle It!

- Clear, brown and green glass
- Broken glass
- Mirror or window glass
- Glass plates
- Light bulbs
- Heat-resistant glass (e.g., Pyrex)
- Ceramics (i.e., dishware, ovenware, decorative items)

## PLASTICS

### Yes, Please – Recycle It!

- Any and all plastics with recycle symbols #1-7
- Thin plastics (e.g., grocery bags, dry cleaner bags, newspaper sleeves)

### No, Thank You – Trash It!

- Plastics without a recycle symbol
- Pesticide, chemical, antifreeze or motor oil containers
- Toys
- Laundry baskets and unsanitary containers

## METAL


### Yes, Please – Recycle It!

- Bi-metallic cans (e.g., food and pet food)
- Aluminum cans, foil, pie tins, trays
- Jar lids
- Paint/aerosol containers
- Pesticide/chemical containers
- Needles/syringes
- Oil filters and batteries

## OTHER

### No, Thank You – Trash It!

- Styrofoam
- Computer/electronics waste
- Medical waste/biohazard materials

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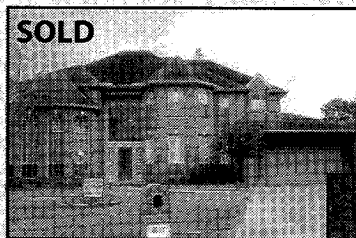
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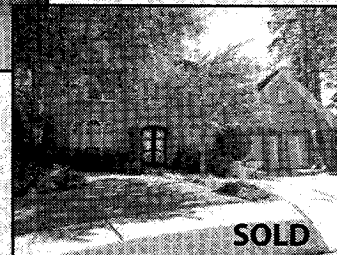
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# Discussion With ACMI

Let me continue this month with a discussion of issues that can impact the appearance of the neighborhood and related property values. Last month I discussed three aspects: (1) How do the entrances appear? (2) Does the community have an overall positive appearance? and (3) How do the individual homes and grounds appear? Finally, everyone was challenged to take a walk around their home and look for details that need attention and then take action. In our late February inspection we saw significant improvement; however, there are still a very significant number of areas of "opportunity."

This month I want to continue with a discussion of relatively common issues that detract from the appearance of some homes and steps the owner/resident can (and should) take to improve that appearance.

- **Many owners and/or residents have not taken steps to control winter weeds.** The result is many properties have become overgrown with weeds and present a very negative appearance. In late January and early February, 56 force-mow notices were sent to owners whose lawns were weed-ridden. The notice apparently helped – more than 30 of the properties were mown prior to the visit by the landscaper. The Association did, however, end up mowing 22 properties. This force-mow program will be continued. We hope there will be a general positive response with owners treating lawns with pre- and post-

emergent herbicides both this year and next so weeds do not reappear. Mowing during the winter months can keep weeds from going to seed, and it is far easier to control weeds before they sprout than once they go to seed.

- **Mildew is out of control on some homes.** In some cases it appears mildew has grown uncontrolled for several years. We will ask the OOCIA Board for approval to institute a special initiative on mildew growth on the homes, mailboxes, walks and driveways. In Houston, power-washing with an algacide at least once a year is required if your home has any damp, shady area where mildew thrives.
- **Mailboxes need attention, especially those on wooden supports.** As many as 30% of the community's mailboxes are in urgent need of replacement or repair, and in their current condition, they detract significantly from the appearance of the home and the community.

Again, let me urge you to please take a few minutes to walk around your home and take a critical look for details that need attention. Then get out the power washer, buy a new mailbox and take other action to make your home present a more positive appearance to visitors as well as to assist in increasing the value of the Olde Oaks and Waterford Park neighborhoods.

*contributed by Bert Williams, ACMI Management*



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# Spring Spruce. Up



Trees and bushes are in leaf. Bird song issues from the tops of our majestic trees. Lawn mower engines buzz in the distance like giant bees. There is no escaping it: Spring is upon us. As the weather gets warmer, spend an hour at your local plant nursery – I'll bet you won't come home empty-handed!

**Lawn Maintenance** – Now is the time to fertilize. Look for products with the general ratio 3-1-2 (for example, 15-5-10). The numbers tell you the ratio of nitrogen to phosphorus to potassium in the mix. Use a broadcast or drop spreader and follow the application instructions on the bag. Got leftovers? Don't worry – you'll use it again in late summer. If you have some bare spots in your lawn, purchase St. Augustine plugs

and place them every 12 inches. Water them in, and they will have meshed together by mid-season. Mow, trim, and edge – the community deed restrictions require it!

**Watering** – Turn on and cycle your irrigation system. Replace broken sprinkler heads and make sure the heads are spraying where you want them to spray – not on your foundation, windows or driveway. Watering rates are unique to every different yard, so ask a professional for advice on how long and how often to water. In general, you want to keep your plants wet for the least amount of time possible. Watering just before sunrise, when plants are already wet from dew and will quickly dry in the morning sun, is the optimal time. This also reduces evaporative loss and doesn't give fungus a chance to start. If you don't have an automatic rain sensor shutoff, hit the "off" button when rain chances are high.

**Trees** – Harris County and the surrounding counties lost or will lose an estimated 66 million trees due to last summer's drought. This is about 10% of the total tree population. If one or more of these trees is on your property, have it removed. For living trees, remove dead branches or any that touch your house – this can be a pathway for pests as well as a hazard in high winds or storms.

**Shrubs and Flower Beds** – If you are unsure whether shrubs and bushes will come back after last summer's brutal heat, scrape the bark with your thumbnail. If you uncover

*(continued on next page)*

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## Spring Spruce Up - continued

green, the plant is still viable. If not, it is time to remove and replace. Rake out beds to remove dead leaves. Trim and/or prune bushes to tidy their appearance.

For sunny spots, consider juniper, sky-pencil holly or pittosporum. Plumbago and lantana are flowering options. Stands of iris sport elegant flowers in the spring and their lance-like leaves look great all year round.

For shadier areas, look for camellias, azaleas, gardenias or ferns. Variegated ginger is a stunning plant that does well in sun or shade and is drought-tolerant. Groundcovers are a low-maintenance way to add a manicured look. Vinca and verbena work well in sunny beds, while impatiens, begonias, coleus, caladium, and hypoestes prefer shade. Once you've cleaned out the beds and set your plants, add mulch to a depth of several inches. Mulch not only gives a neat, professional appearance, but also retains moisture in the soil beneath and retards the growth of weeds.

**Potted Flowers** – Nothing brightens up your property like flowers. Flank your front door or walkway with a couple of pots of seasonal color. Nurseries have some fabulous pre-planted pots – just add water. If you are more adventurous, make your own: Pick one upright spiky plant, one with tiny flowers, and pot them together with a third flowering plant that will trail over the pot's edges. Have fun with texture and color. Some plants to try: blue daze, licorice, impatiens, geraniums, petunias, Aztec grass,

million bells or daisies. A drip system to maintain your pots is a quick and easy addition to your irrigation system.

**Kitchen Gardens** – With the price of groceries skyrocketing, why not plant a kitchen garden? Now is the time to set out tomato plants – either in the ground or in a large pot in a sunny area. Peppers, okra, potatoes and strawberries do well. Look for native varieties. Try rosemary, basil, dill, thyme, oregano, mint, parsley, cilantro or bay laurel. A small kitchen garden is a great project for the whole family. It is fun and rewarding to cook with and share your harvest.

Let's all get out there and enjoy the season!

contributed by *Laura Summers*

## OLDE OAKS Interest Group Contacts

If you are interested in joining any of the Olde Oaks Interest Groups, please call the neighborhood representative listed.

Book Club.....	Kathy Hall, 281-569-4967
Bridge, Women's .....	Susanne Bailey, 281-580-1717
Dinner With Friends .....	Lauren Hensley, 281-893-1833
Museum Excursion.....	Zelda Kaye, 281-880-8505
Mixed Bowling.....	Francine Alvarez, 281-580-8815
Wii Bowlers.....	Zelda Kaye, 281-880-8505

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# Interest Group Survey

As a current owner or resident of Olde Oaks/Waterford Park, you have the opportunity to participate in a variety of Neighborhood interest groups. These groups are composed of OO/WP individuals who share a special interest. For example, the Book Club members share an interest in reading and literary discussion, while Dinner With Friends is composed of couples who enjoy cooking and dining with their neighbors six times per year.

In an effort to ensure that our interest groups continue to meet the interests of OO/WP residents and owners, we would appreciate your participation in a short survey. Do you like knitting, golf, tennis, classic cars, quilting, writing, gardening, woodworking, or anything else under the sun? Share your interest with like-minded neighbors and make new friends in the process.

Please complete the survey below if you are interested in joining one of the existing interest groups or would like to suggest a new interest group for the neighborhood. This information will be used to determine what interest groups will be offered in the future. **Responses are requested by April 30.**

Please note that if you are already participating in specific interest groups, you are not required to renew your interest at this time. However, if you are interested in joining an interest group, please complete the following survey and you will be contacted with more information.

## Interest Group Survey Form

Please return your completed survey to **Laura Summers** via email at [OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com](mailto:OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com) or U.S. mail, 3511 Kennonview, Houston, Texas 77068.

I am interested in participating in:

- Book Club   
  Women's Bridge   
  Dinner With Friends  
 Museum Excursion   
  Mixed Bowling   
  Wii Bowlers  
 Bunco   
  Women's Club

I would be interested in participating in (and/or leading) the following new interest group(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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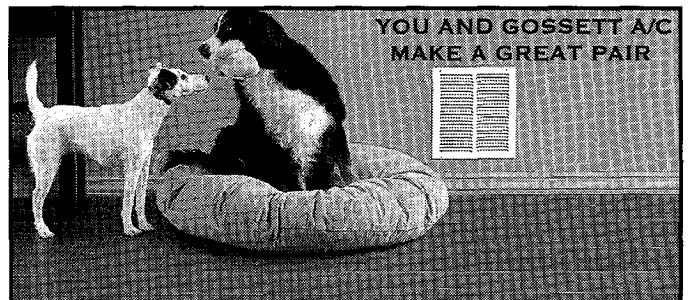
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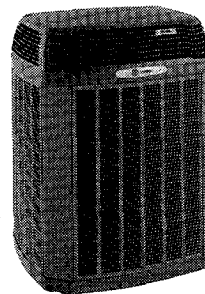
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## “Footnotes”



This month we'll have our annual meeting and sack lunch at the Collins Park behind the library. We've always had good weather for this change of venue, and it is a pleasant change from meeting in homes the rest of the year. **April 24** is the date and 11 a.m. the time, or as determined at the March meeting.

**Shashi Ambiee** will be discussion leader for

*Little Bee* by Chris Cleave.

*Little Bee* is the second novel written by Cleave in 2008 and *Incendiary*, in 2006. Cleave is also a writer for *The Guardian*, a London newspaper. He has been a barman, a long-distance sailor, a teacher of marine navigation, and an itinerant pioneer. He presently lives in London with his French wife and three children.

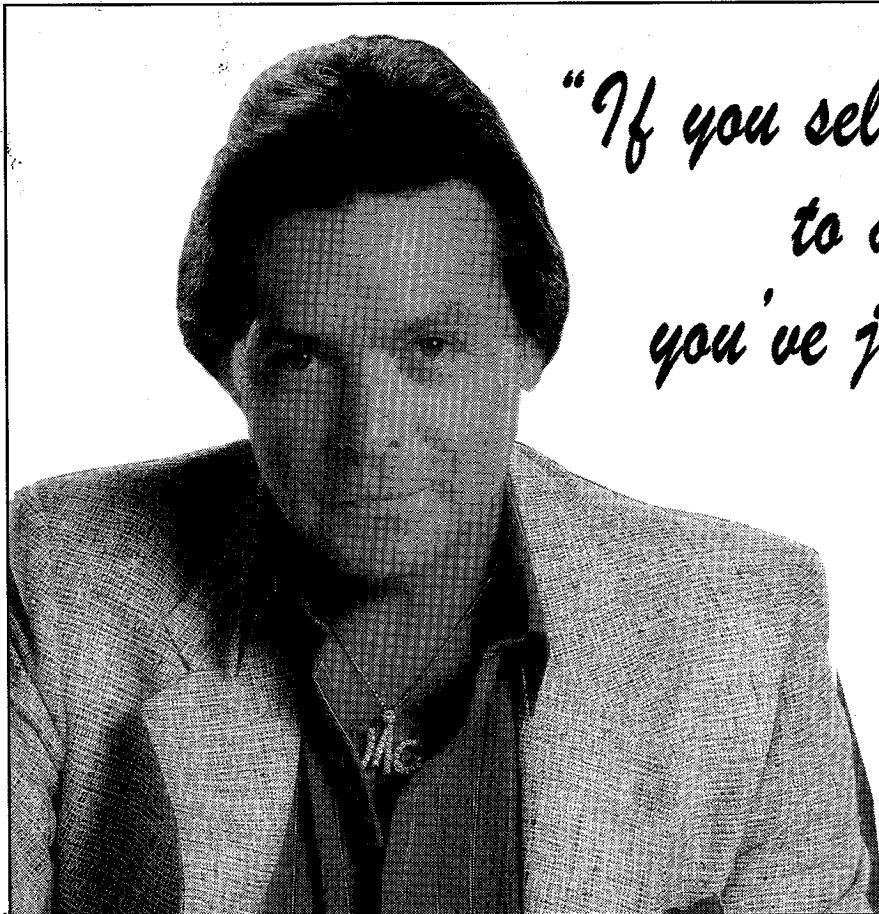
Inspired by a childhood in West Africa and an accidental visit to a British concentration camp, he wrote of an African girl coming to the western world, struggling to be accepted and encountering racism, hostility, and betrayal. She also finds good people and friendship and becomes stronger than she would have been in her previous society. The story is an allegory of the struggle of all people who have hoped for a better life.

*Kathy Hall*  
Book Club Coordinator

## OOCIA Monthly Meeting Notes

The OOCIA Board held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 14. About 20 residents were in attendance. Some of the topics of discussion included the following:

- Irrigation and water meter installation on eight cul-de-sacs has been completed. Landscaping will be the next step.
- 315 delinquency notices regarding the OOCIA 2012 annual assessment were sent out in March. Did you know that you can start making payments toward your 2013 assessment now? Paying \$55 per month to ACMI is a budget-friendly way to get your assessment out of the way!
- The Board has implemented an aggressive forced yard-mowing program. Mow, trim and edge on a regular basis to avoid a letter from the Board and potential fees for forced mowing.
- The beautification of the entrance monuments on Walters, Pebble Bend, Brightwood and Terrace Oaks was discussed – to restore the community's image, we need to work in conjunction with businesses and neighbors on the entrance streets. More information will be forthcoming.
- The Board voted to refurbish the sign boards on Walters, Pebble Bend, Brightwood and T.C. Jester.
- The Mosquito Control contract was reviewed. The Board voted to stay with Cypress Creek Pest Control. Fogging should begin around **April 1**.
- The trash collection contract was reviewed. The Board voted to change to Royal Recycle & Disposal. We will



*“If you sell your gold or silver  
to anyone else,  
you've just lost money!”*

**Mickey  
Gilley**





keep our current level of service, including backdoor pickup, twice weekly service, heavy trash collection, but will gain an expanded recycle program.

- The Champions Printing contract was reviewed and renewed. Champions prints our monthly newsletter.

- The Board's bylaws allow the appointment of a Deputy Treasurer. **Steve Hatcher** was selected for the position and will assist Board Treasurer **Linda Faulkner** in putting together an investment policy proposal for the Board's review.

## Call for



Want to be a part of restoring this community to its former glory? Olde Oaks/Waterford Park needs volunteers to serve on various committees, from Communications to Beautification, to improve our image and increase the sense of security and community in OO/WP. If you can spare even an hour per month, we want you! Please email your contact information to [OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com](mailto:OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com) (or mail to **Laura Summers**, 3511 Kennonview) as soon as possible, and we will get you plugged into the exciting things that are beginning to take place!

## Monthly Statistics OLDE OAKS & WATERFORD PARK February 2012

9-1-1 Hang-Up.....1	Disturbances.....8
Accident .....1	Meet the Citizen .....4
Alarms.....19	Open Door/Open Window .....0
Animal Humane/Aggressive.....0	Solicitor.....1
Burglary to a Habitation .....0	Suspicious Person/Vehicle .....3/1
Burglary to a Motor Vehicle.....3	Traffic Initiative.....78
Criminal Mischief.....1	Vacation Watch .....2

Whenever you have information about suspicious or criminal activity and report it to the Harris County Sheriff's Office, it is helpful and contributes to the safety and betterment of your community. These reports are available between law enforcement as communication to fortify their efforts to stop crime. In Olde Oaks and Waterford Park, we have HCSO deputies who patrol our neighborhood, and they encourage you to call in your information to the numbers listed below. Anonymity is available. **It is more effective to call immediately while it is occurring.** Still call if it has already happened.

**CALL 713-221-6000 OR 9-1-1**

To request a Contract Deputy to contact you, call nonemergency/informational at 713-221-6000.

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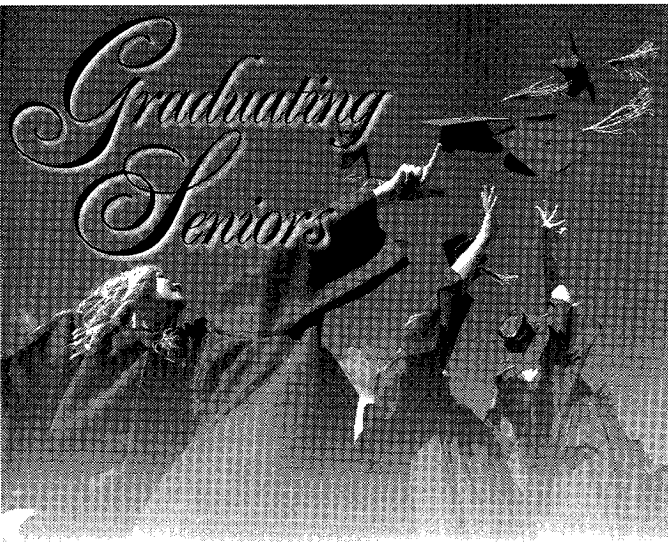
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We would like to recognize Olde Oaks/Waterford Park's new high school and college graduates. Please email the student's name, parents' names, school presently attending, activities and honors, future plans and a photo, if desired, to [OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com](mailto:OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com) by April 10.



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## Just in Time for Spring – Poisonous Plants for Pets



As springtime leads to planting season, it is important to be mindful of our furry friends during the plant selection process. While there are thousands of species of plants and flowers, only a small

percentage of them are truly poisonous to your pet. If you have pets, make sure you know which plants are most dangerous.

Outlined below is partial list of the most common and most deadly household and garden plants for pets. Ingesting even a small amount of the plant's seed or its leaves can cause severe reactions, such as vomiting, dehydration, kidney or liver failure, or even lead to death.

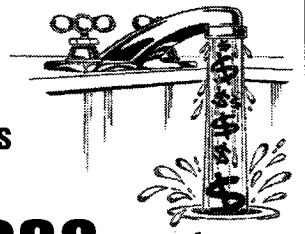
- Autumn crocus, azalea, cyclamen, kalanchoe, lilies, oleander, dieffenbachia, daffodils, Lily of the Valley, sago palm, tulips and hyacinths

If you suspect your pet has ingested any of these plants or any other questionable substance, call your veterinarian, SPCA or the Pet Poison Helpline for immediate assistance. Accurate and timely identification of the suspected substance is very important. Having the container, package, or label in hand will save valuable time and may save your pet's life.

*contributed by Jocelyn Ray-Latson*

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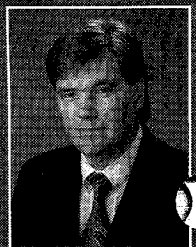
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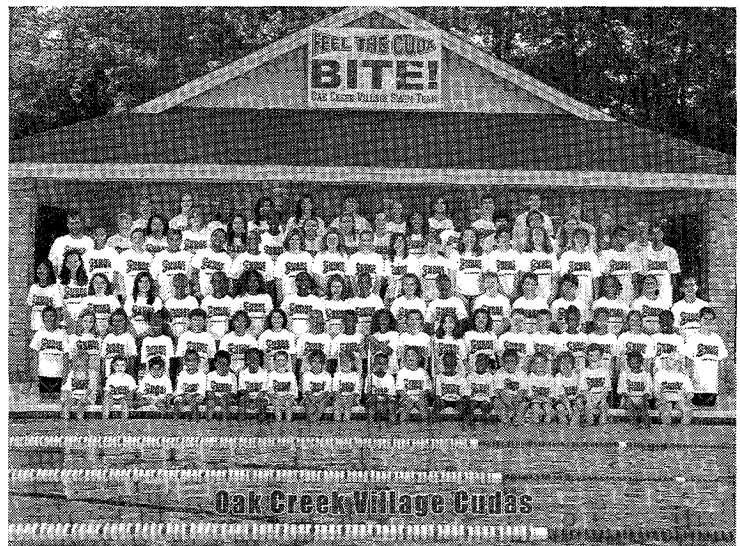
## Join the Team!

Calling all children! You are invited to swim with the Division Champion Oak Creek Village Swim Team for this, our 40th season. The season runs from **May 1 through June 23**, and we are looking forward to a fantastic season! All residents of Olde Oaks and Waterford Park are eligible to join! Registration will be held on **Sunday, April 15**, from 2-4 p.m. at the OCV pool clubhouse. More information, including online registration, can be found at [www.ocvcudas.com](http://www.ocvcudas.com).

Swimmers ages 4 to 18 who live in Oak Creek Village, Olde Oaks, Waterford Park, Northgate Forest or other neighborhoods who do not have their own swim team programs are invited to participate. Membership is \$85 for the first child, with discounted rates for additional family members. "Not only do swimmers enjoy the benefits of exercise, but it is also a great way to meet your neighbors and build lifelong friendships," said **Brent Barnett**, President of the OCV Swim Team. "There is no experience necessary and the Cudas welcome everyone," he added.

The Cudas hold practice after school on Tuesday through Friday beginning **May 1**. When school is out, swimmers may choose to attend morning or evening practices. Practices end on **June 22**. Swim meets are held on Saturday mornings from May 12 through June 23. In addition, team events such as Spirit Rallies, Pep Rallies, Bingo Night, Cuda-Swim-A-Thon, and the End-of-Season Banquet add up to great summer fun for the entire family.

The OCV Swim Team is also pleased to announce that **Coach Leane Theiss** will be returning once again to lead



the summer league. Coach Leane is head coach at Westfield High. Known for her expertise in developing great swimming technique, Coach Leane says, "Swimming uses all of the body's major muscle groups, increases coordination, and is one of the most injury-free sports for children and young adults."

The Cudas are also looking for sponsors to offset costs. Sponsorships range from \$25 to \$500. For registration information, the event schedule, a listing of sponsorship opportunities, and a complete listing of events, visit [www.ocvcudas.com](http://www.ocvcudas.com). The Cudas are members of the Northwest Aquatics League.

For more information, please call **Brent and Brenda Barnett** at 281-440-6825.

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Presents

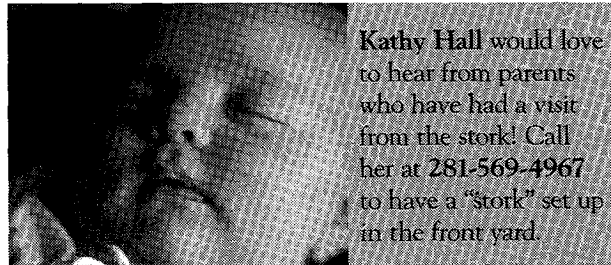
## Crimes of the Heart

The Texas Repertory Theatre Co., Houston's Uptown Classic Theatre, continues its 7th Anniversary Season with Beth Henley's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy, *Crimes of the Heart*, running through April 7.

Three eccentric sisters, a husband who's been shot, and a lawyer with a vendetta: the recipe for a 30th birthday gone wrong! Family cruelty has never been more fun than in Beth Henley's Southern Gothic screwball comedy. Good humor and laughs abound in the McGrath home, even as this Hazlehurst, Mississippi family faces a veritable heap of misfortune. Touching, tragic, and daffy, *Crimes of the Heart* is a darkly comic family feud of epic proportions. *Crimes of the Heart* won both the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Drama Critics Circle award for Best Play.

The Texas Repertory Theatre production of *Crimes of the Heart* features a cast that includes some of Houston's finest actresses, including Lauren Dolk, Lyndsay Sweeney, Eva LaPorte, and Julie Fontenot making her Texas Repertory debut, all under the direction of Texas Repertory Artistic Director Steven Fenley. The theatre is located at 14243 Stuebner Airline Road, just north of FM 1960. For tickets or more information call our friendly box office at 281-583-7573 or log onto [www.texreptheatre.org](http://www.texreptheatre.org).

**NEW BABY?**



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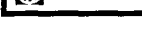
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## Come Tax Assistance at the Library

AARP volunteers will be at the library again this year to assist customers in preparing their tax returns. The volunteers will be here through **April 16** on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Mondays from 1-8 p.m. Assistance is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. The volunteers are not able to take phone calls.

## 1960 Digital Photography Special Interest Group Photo Exhibit

The exhibit for April is furnished by the 1960 Digital Photography Special Interest Group (SIG), which is part of the larger 1960 PC User Group. The Photography SIG meets the first Thursday of each month at the Cypresswood Christian Church and Community Center and is open to anyone who has an interest in improving their photography skills. All skill levels are welcome. The programs cover all aspects of photography, such as composition, lighting, nature, wildlife, and portraiture. If you want to improve your photos, this club might be just what you need. Visitors are always welcome. Check out the website at <http://www.1960pcug.org/index.html>. Come to the library in April to see these photos from local photographers.

## The Butterfly Project

In honor of National Holocaust Month, Barbara Bush Branch Library is participating in "The Butterfly Project" through the Holocaust Museum Houston. In an effort to remember the 1.5 million children who perished during the Holocaust, the Holocaust Museum Houston is collecting handmade butterflies to be featured in a 2014 exhibit. During the month of April the library will have a table in the lobby with supplies to make a butterfly for this project as well as a box to hold completed butterflies. Please take a moment to remember and make a butterfly. For more information on "The Butterfly Project," please visit [http://www.hmh.org/ed\\_butterfly1.shtml](http://www.hmh.org/ed_butterfly1.shtml).

## Ongoing at the Library

**Spanish Classes** – Practice your Spanish on Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., in the WCR conference room. No need to register; just drop in and meet Oscar, our tutor. Class is free and open to everyone. Some knowledge of Spanish is helpful.

**Green Magazine Exchange Center** – The library has a place for your recent, but read magazines. Bring in your old magazines to share with others. Please bring only magazines published in 2011 or 2012. Feel free to take as many as you bring in (or more). The rack is at the top of the stairs on the second floor.

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### Attention Teen Job Seekers!

To be listed as a Teen Job Seeker, email your name, phone number and job preferences to [OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com](mailto:OldeOaksEditor@hotmail.com). To keep the list up-to-date, your listing will run for three months. You will need to resubmit your listing every third month. This column is for informational purposes only. No recommendation is being made by OOCIA.

- |                     |               |                 |
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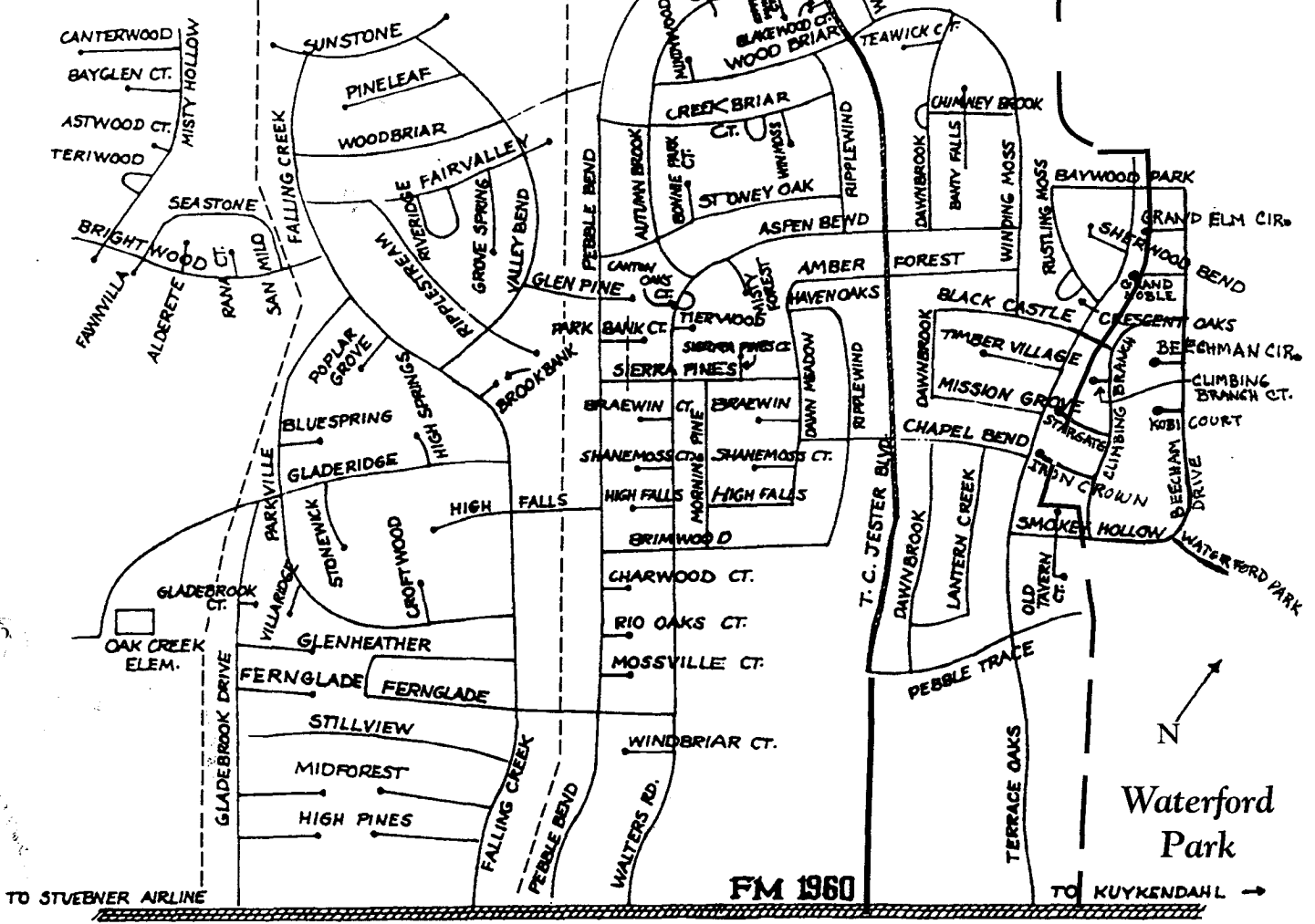
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- 2. Clean up the landscaping:** Trim hedges and trees and plant some annuals in the flowerbeds.
- 3. Paint the interior:** A coat of light yellow or cream with contrasting white woodwork looks fresh and clean.
- 4. Refurbish the floors:** Buff the hardwoods. Install new carpets or get them professionally cleaned.
- 5. Take care of the big problems:** If the house needs a roof or the front stoop is crumbling, get them fixed.
- 6. Buy a Residential Service Contract:** Putting appliances/systems under warranty gives homebuyers a secure feeling.
- 7. Improve energy efficiency:** New windows or improved insulation tells a potential buyer the seller is on top of things, plus they come with tax benefits.
- 8. Replace light fixtures:** Updated fixtures, especially at the entrance way and in the foyer, create a good first impression.
- 9. Buy a stove:** Home owners whose kitchen isn't top of the line can jazz it up for a few hundred dollars by buying a new stove, which gives the room a fresh feel.
- 10. Tidy up the bathrooms:** Gid rid of mildew, replace caulking, & replace stained sinks.

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